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# BOSTON COLLEGE

S U M M E R

*magazine*

1 9 9 7



## Unravelling

*An excerpt from a novel by Elizabeth Graver*



# In the garden

When I was a boy devouring seven books a week courtesy of the New Lots Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, I knew that there were works of nonfiction in the building, just as I knew there was a tundra in the Arctic, an expansive desert in northern Africa and mountain ranges at the bottom of the sea.

The New Lots Branch was a warehouse with windows, and its simple—and as I saw it sensible—geography was such that you entered the groves of fiction when you walked through the main door and only by passing through and out the other end did you come to the reductively named shadowland of nonfiction. The border was clearly marked by freestanding display cases for recently published books, and I don't recall ever crossing it unless I had to, as when some schoolteacher ordered up a 500-word report on, say, "The Age of Atomic Energy" or "Homer, the Greek Bard" using ruled margins, script handwriting, at least five foot-noted references and a cover illustration (an atomic nucleus surrounded by a swirl of lesser particles, or a sharp-nosed man wearing a helmet and tunic, with Crayola blood pooling below one of his heels).

Except for those occasional and necessary raids on the *Encyclopedia Americana* and its ilk, I ravened throughout my childhood in the groves of fiction, choosing books by size, color, illustration or a sudden itch to know what the Japanese put in their "best" short stories. If a book looked like it might be ripe, I ate it and never worried. Barbarian that I was, I had no notion of literature, no idea that some books had standing and others didn't or that somewhere men and women sat and dreamed up lists of stories that did you good and lists of stories that gave you rickets. I didn't even know that reading fiction was considered an act with implications, as opposed to nonfiction, whose implications I understood full well from my cousin Harvey, who was devoted to books about ham radio operations and spent all his free time hunched over a microphone in the garage.

And so I chose *Hans Brinker* because it was fat, Jack London's *The Sea Wolf* because the jacket illustration was lurid, and *The Naked and the Dead* for reasons that will be obvious to anyone who's ever been a boy or known a boy. I read *The Scarlet Letter* without comprehending Hester's crime (a wonderful way to read it), Camus's *The Plague* without knowing it was a metaphor, and I picked up Carson McCullers's *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter* thinking the title

was nicely mysterious and that it might be about vampires. Once I spent a month on the complete works of Thomas Malory, never quite understanding what the Holy Grail was.

It would be temptingly Freudian to say that my reading was an attempt to escape, whether from self or from my circumstance. I hold a different view. Reading certainly was an escape, but it wasn't an escape from self; it was to self and my true condition that I was escaping, to the private self that was most real and that remains most real and valuable to me.

This period of story reading lasted years. I date its end to summer camp when I was 14. I was to be away three weeks, and so I loaded up on the most robust volumes I could find. One of my counselors was a college boy, and as he passed my bunk one day he looked at the book in my hand and said, "Dos Passos? What are you doing reading Dos Passos?" Joe College's intent, as I later understood, was to show me that he, too, knew who Dos Passos was. Since I didn't, however, I took him to mean that I was reading wrong. Soon after this I did become self-conscious about reading and secretive about my choices. I became civilized. The garden gates closed behind me, but that's all right; I had got away with plenty.

Between work, wife, kids, friends, a modest civic career and a house in the grip of entropy, I have little time to read at all today. And when I do read, I don't reach for fiction but for books of strong opinion, which I seem to need if I'm to stay awake for more than a dozen pages or past 10 P.M., whichever comes first.

I am familiar with the body of opinion which holds that the time of literary fiction has just passed and we are in the age of movies or websites or nothing. I have, in fact, read a number of strong opinions on this topic. And for all I know they may be right and I may be prime evidence.

It may also be, however, that I am temporarily off course, that someday when the kids are off earning their own living and I've nailed the last piece of oak flooring, that I'll find myself turning away from my public, performing selves, heading again—not for the garden, which is shut—but for the inner self that I discover there and that you discern only when you're not trying to, like a man walking on the street who catches himself whole and substantive and strange in the passing glass and marvels for a moment.

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Ben Birnbaum



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*photograph courtesy of the American Textile History Museum*



# BOSTON COLLEGE magazine

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## EDITOR

Ben Birnbaum

## SENIOR EDITOR

Charlotte Bruce Harvey

## ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Bruce Morgan

## SENIOR WRITER

John Ombelets



## DESIGN DIRECTOR

David B. Williams

## ART DIRECTOR

Susan Callaghan



## PHOTOGRAPHY DIRECTOR

Gary Gilbert



## PHOTOGRAPHER

Lee Pellegrini



## PUBLICATIONS ASSISTANT

Pat Mahoney



## CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Clare M. Dunsford

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## TESTIMONY

What an interesting, informative article on Michael Walsh ["Testament: The Walsh tapes," Spring 1997].

I found myself quietly and quickly absorbed in the tapes and your elaborations. I thought I knew Father but certainly not to the extent that I do now.

It is difficult to know who to thank for the article—Richard Freeland or you.

JOSEPH P. KEATING '36  
*Natick, Massachusetts*

It was good to have Mike Walsh brought to life in his own words, and also to have Ben Birnbaum's insightful comments on Walsh's complex character and his achievements—often hard-won—as president of BC.

I came to the University in 1964 as one of Walsh's faculty hires and—at a time when it was relatively small—and I actually got to know and like him. One could hardly have been more of an outsider to the BC of those days than I was: a Yankee with three Harvard degrees, who had been teaching at MIT and was a specialist in English history. I became the first Protestant member of the history department, though not its first non-Catholic: Allen Wakstein had been hired the year before.

We and other faculty now approaching retirement owe our BC careers to Walsh's bold program of development and diversification, which your article describes so well. From it, young professors and more recent BC graduates will learn how much they, too, owe to Mike Walsh.

THOMAS W. PERRY  
*Watertown, Massachusetts*

## ROMANTIC VIEW

Daniel Kanstroom's statements about U.S. immigration law and policy [Q&A, Spring 1997] are a fine example of what I call the

## LETTERS

"romantic" view of immigration. This view holds that liberal immigration laws are per se good and that anyone who questions the current system is a racist or a xenophobe. There are perfectly sound-minded Americans (including many relatively recent immigrants) who believe that U.S. immigration laws are seriously flawed. The conclusion is inescapable when you consider just a few of the facts: A greater percentage of immigrants are on welfare than natives; in 1990, the United States spent \$16 billion more in welfare payments to immigrants than they paid in taxes; immigrants make up 25 percent of inmates in federal penitentiaries.

We need a civil debate in order to develop an immigration system that makes sense. Kanstroom's statements do nothing to move that debate forward.

BILL MARSAN '86  
*McLean, Virginia*

## STANDARD-BEARER

I just finished "Rebound" [Linden Lane, Spring 1997]. As a BC parent, I root for BC's teams and follow the basketball and football seasons. The camaraderie created by having a team to root for was a wonderful part of my daughter's college experience. But that's not why she came to BC. We as a family decided on BC because of academics, not sports.

BC's graduation rates speak for themselves. Admission criteria must stay at a level that guarantees the quality of the education for student athletes as well as other students. I think Mr. O'Brien is a fine coach. But we cannot allow the "two standard" approach to admissions to creep in. It's an injustice to student athletes, to other students and to the philosophy of the institution. Fr. Leahy must continue to place academics first.

JOAN E. GALLIGAN  
*Southport, Connecticut*

## FAITH COUNT

Bruce Morgan's article ["Like fish in a bowl," Linden Lane, Spring 1997] on the weekly prayer services of BC's Muslim Student Association highlights the importance of providing for the religious diversity found on university campuses.

The opening line states: "The world is home to two billion Muslims." The principal demographer of global religious adherence is David Barrett of Regent University in Virginia. As of mid-1997, he reports a worldwide Muslim population of 1,154,302,000.

REV. TITUS LEONARD PRESLER  
*Cambridge, Massachusetts*

## NEWS HUNGRY

It was wonderful to read about BC's efforts in the community and even to learn about the turmoil on the campus ["Heat and light," Linden Lane, and "Town meeting," Spring 1997]. Please continue to write about what is happening at BC. We have the newspaper to find out what is happening elsewhere around the world.

ANDREA MUNSTER YOCH '89  
STEVE YOCH '87  
*St. Paul, Minnesota*

## MISTAKEN IDENTITY

The caption to a photograph in the Spring issue [Advancement] misidentified one of the alumnae attending a fund-raiser for the Newton College Alumnae Professorship in Western Culture. The woman identified as Karen Birmingham NC'64, was actually the guest speaker, Patricia Szarek Aburdene NC'69, author of *Megatrends for Women*.

BCM welcomes letters from readers. Letters may be edited for length and clarity and must be signed to be published. Our fax number is (617) 552-2441, and our e-mail address is birnbaum@bc.edu.





Student David Johnston, right, with Cape Breton style fiddler Buddy MacMaster.

# Bodhran days

## SUMMER SCHOOL FOR THE MUSICALLY INCLINED

For one fine week this June, the jackhammer pounding of summer construction projects gave way to more ethereal sounds on the campus. The air around St. Mary's Hall vibrated with the drumbeats of the Irish bodhran, as a group of young people in baggy jeans beat time in a circle on the grass. A tall, square-shouldered woman walked the concrete expanse of O'Neill Plaza and sent up toward the sky the pure, a cappella tones of Irish *sean-nós* singing. A lone harpist made heavenly music from a bench along Linden Lane.

Bowing the fiddle, beating the bodhran and plucking the harp, blowing the pipes and the

whistle, 200 musicians and dancers from across North America and from Australia, Italy, Bermuda, England and Ireland converged on the campus to study with masters of their arts. Seamus Connolly, master fiddler and musical director of BC's Irish Studies Program, had brought this eclectic group together for Gaelic Roots III, a combination summer school and festival of Gaelic music and dance.

Those who answered Connolly's call included a sweet-faced single mother of two from Alaska and a redheaded optometrist from Connecticut, brash and sassy as a whistle, who had been a former champion step dancer. There



Two mothers wearing suburban bobs and khakis clasped hands with their daughters and spun; one of the teenagers, with multicolored hair and a pierced lip, stepped up the speed, the shrieking foursome held together by nothing more than centripetal force and the lift of the music.

was John, a lanky train conductor on the Scranton-New York City line and a step-dance teacher himself. There was Rachel from Minnesota, whose early love of step dancing led her mother to start the step-dancing school that Rachel runs today. Caroline, a pediatric geneticist from Ohio, first heard the call in a Tower Records Store in New Orleans, where she was stopped in her tracks by the haunting sound of the uilleann pipes being played over the store's sound system. Recounting the place and time she fell in love, she recalled that the musician was Willie Clancy and the song was "The Breeze of Erin." She bought the recording on the spot, feeling as if she understood the music in her bones. She had come to BC to learn to play the tin whistle and to meet others whose bones felt the music, too.

The center of musical activity for the week was Gasson Hall, where the Irish Room lived up to its name as the site of casual afternoon recitals by the school's world-famous teachers, a concert of New England masters on Thursday night and Saturday's set and *caéilí* dance. In one group of set dancers, two mothers wearing suburban bobs and sedate khakis clasped hands with their daughters and spun in a ring; one of the teenagers, with multicolored hair and a pierced lip, stepped up the speed, and the shrieking foursome was held together by nothing more than centripetal force and the lift of the music.

On the upper floors of Gasson, classrooms were designated by instrument; a ramble down the corridor took one past the squeaking of beginning fiddlers, the childish toot of the tin whistle, the aptly silent, closed door of a harp class. In Gasson 306, Buddy MacMaster, the grandfather of Cape Breton fiddlers, played at a small desk while

a silent ring of students, fiddles in hand, listened intently. In a classroom at the top of the stairs a man sat alone with his bristling armful of uilleann pipes. Teased about being ostracized (the pipes are, after all, an acquired taste), he explained that he was the lone beginner in a workshop held downstairs whose teacher had volunteered to climb up and down to give both "levels" personal attention.

The step-dance workshops were held in Carney, where startled academics emerged from the first-floor elevator into a gaggle of gangly preteen girls who tapped and leaped about like graceful spiders. In the beginners' classroom, women dancers from their twenties to their fifties compared the aches and pains they were earning in two daily workshops of two hours each, sometimes followed by dancing in their dorm rooms until after midnight. A massage therapist from Stow, Massachusetts, decided that at next year's sessions she ought to set up a table and offer her services. The only student who didn't seem to feel the pull of gravity was an elfin blond girl who could barely reach the lavatory sink to wash her hands. "How long have you been dancing?" she was asked.

"Four years," she replied.

"And how old are you?"

"Four years," she unironically replied.

At the week's final concert, sold-out to the public, the master musicians took to the stage in Robsham Theater and put on what master of ceremonies Brian O'Donovan of WGBH radio called not a performance but a celebration of the ensemble tradition that is Celtic music. Musicians performed and came back later in the program to accompany others, styles appeared and reappeared in new guises, the

young joined the old. Master accordion player Jackie Daly, resplendent in red high-top sneakers, prefaced a reel with the coy wish that there be "all rattlin' and nothin' breakin'," but before you knew it he was joined on the stage by traditional step dancer Donncha Ó Múineacháin, who broke out of the wings in an unrehearsed explosion of clattering feet and electrifying smile. Brothers Charlie and Ben Lennon, beloved masters of the County Leitrim-County Sligo style of fiddle, played side by side, capped by the same shock of dazzling white hair and bushy eyebrows.

A new generation of Gaelic legends played a jazzy set that stood tradition on its ear. Tommy Hayes, a round, curly-headed gnome who personified mischief from the moment he took the stage, was a whirling dervish of rhythm. With bodhran and spoons and drums, he goaded Gerry O'Connor's banjo and Zan McLeod's guitar into an exuberant session of musical anarchy.

In a more traditional vein, husband and wife Joe and Antoinette McKenna, on pipes and harp, played and sang with Antoinette's sister and well-known whistle player, Mary Bergin, a song that enchanted the crowd with its hypnotic refrain:

You are the call and I am  
the answer,  
You are the song and I  
am the dance,  
You are the night and I  
am the day.

Their harmony was perfect.

Clare M. Dunsford



# OFF THE RECORD

The attorney general chats



Janet Reno was all attorney general when she accepted her honorary degree and addressed the Commencement audience in Conte Forum, but an hour earlier she'd revealed another side to a select group of graduates.

The U.S. attorney general slipped in quietly, beginning at the back of the room and moving slowly toward the front, reaching out and shaking students' hands. It was Commencement morning, and Janet Reno, dressed in a lemon-colored suit, was scheduled to give the graduation speech in an hour, but she had asked to meet first with a few of those about to receive their degrees.

Taking her seat at the front of the room, Reno leaned forward, elbows on the table, and began to speak in a voice so soft that she could barely be heard a hat toss away. "Gee, it seems like yesterday that I was graduating from Cornell," she said, to instant polite laughter. Questions posed by the two dozen students, handpicked by their respective deans, ranged from generational challenges ("We need to get back to the idea of

serving others, to rebuild a sense of community in America," suggested Reno) to the difficulty of sustaining a private life in her highly visible job ("People are kinder than you might expect. I think a lot of the meanness you hear about is overblown"). She spoke frankly, with a school-teacher's folksiness, seemingly eager to share her thoughts on any topic.

At one point, after she had asked the soon-to-be-graduates to tell her their career plans, a young woman in the third row volunteered that she was about to graduate with a degree in social work. "Oh, that's wonderful," Reno replied. "That reminds me of one of the greatest compliments I was given when I first came to Washington. Someone said, 'She seemed like a very nice lady, but she seems more like a social worker than an attorney general.'"

Quizzed about her impressions of Washington, D.C., after four years in office, she speculated that none of the problems afflicting the U.S. system of government is new. She cited a biography of Lincoln that she was reading, which portrays Lincoln as regularly assailed by opposition leaders demanding to know the scope of his connivance in scandals on his watch. "They were always asking him, 'What did he know and when did he know it?' The questions sounded so much like the interrogatories we get today."

A law student asked whether the growing push for "crime control" threatens to undermine constitutional guarantees of due process. "Well, of course this is not just a legal issue," Reno said. "This is one of the great issues of the human condition—how to limit privacy and freedom in

## ROLL CALL

This spring's honorary-degree recipients were: Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, an adviser to Pope John Paul II on human-rights issues; Peter Dervan, '67, a Caltech chemist; University Trustee John A. McNeice, Jr., '54, retired chairman and CEO of the Colonial Group Inc.; civil-rights activist, singer and history professor Bernice Johnson Reagon; and U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno. Ceremonies were held in Conte Forum because of rain, and the stands were packed with more than 10,000 graduates, family members and friends.

## LEGAL ADDITION

Deval Patrick, former head of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, will teach a course in "Emerging Issues in Civil Rights Law" at the Law School this fall. He addressed law graduates at Commencement Exercises May 25.

## ENTRUSTED



GSSW Dean June Gary Hopps has been appointed chair of the Spelman College board of trustees. A Spelman alumna, Hopps has served as a trustee of the Atlanta-based college since 1989 and chaired the search committee to replace President Johnetta Cole.

## HEIGHTS PRAISE

The *Heights* named Dean for Student Development Robert Sherwood "Person of the Year" this spring, applauding his handling of the gambling scandal and tensions associated with student protests. Also noted was his travel to Cape Verde and Jamaica with student volunteer missions.





#### THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE

Samira Zebian '99, will represent Massachusetts in the Miss America pageant on September 13. A biology and economics major, Zebian is captain of the Golden Eagles Dance Team and a choreographer for the BC Dance Ensemble. At the Miss Massachusetts competition, she won a \$4,000 scholarship for her tap dancing.

#### A GUY'S BEST FRIEND

The Shea Field baseball diamond was named in honor of former BC coach Eddie Pellagrini this spring. Several Boston Red Sox representatives attended, including Johnny Pesky, Pellagrini's teammate on the 1946 American League championship team. Ken Coleman, the retired Red Sox broadcaster, served as master of ceremonies. During 31 seasons at BC, Pellagrini led the Eagles to 359 victories and three appearances in the College World Series.

#### FEVER PITCH

Last April, BCbOp! alumni from across the country joined current band members on stage at Robsham for a 10th-anniversary concert at which the band announced the release of its first CD, "From the Edge." The disc's 17 cuts include a sampling from each of the band's annual concerts and feature the work of Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller and the Andrews Sisters as well as some novelty and funk selections. The CD is available through the BC Bookstore.

the interest of the greater good." Reno said she missed being able to discuss such matters with her mother, who died five years ago, and to hear her strong opinions.

Reno's mother darted in and out of her talk, with each reference looming more powerfully as the central figure in her daughter's life. To what did Reno

attribute her success, a student wanted to know. "Luck," Reno responded instantly, as laughter worked around the room. "I think a lot of it was luck. But also my parents. My father was a newspaper reporter. My mother was extraordinarily important in making me believe in myself. She taught me to pick

myself up and keep going."

When her handlers stepped forward to usher her on, Reno gently reiterated one simple bit of advice to students: Follow your passion undeterred. Then the attorney general stood, shook some more hands and left for her other, larger obligations.

*Bruce Morgan*

## THE NATURAL

William J. Flynn, 1916-1997

Bill Flynn, who died at age 81 on June 27, was athletic, resolute, loyal, modest, confident, personable, reverent, good-looking, a former FBI agent and the father of seven. If there was something else a BC man of his generation was supposed to be, I don't know what it is.

Bill was a math whiz, too—though he didn't make much of that. A BC man of his generation wouldn't. But he taught in the Boston College math department after World War II and was later alumni association director and editor of one of the periodicals that preceded *BCM*. Most famously, he was the 35-year (1957-1992) athletic director who worked out BC's rising athletic fortunes on the backs of envelopes, who sealed multi-million-dollar deals with a handshake, who never forgot a face or a commitment. He was the man in charge while everything quietly got done: old and new alumni stadiums; Roberts Center and McHugh Forum; Conte Forum and the Flynn Recreation Complex; the Beanpot, the Big East and the Notre Dame series.

Twelve years ago I wanted to write a story about BC's athletics program and what it brought to the University by way of gifts and problems. I wanted to write a story that contained all the



heretofore unrevealed data—from dollars to graduation rates.

Most athletic directors run from such stories as they would from a plague of scrofula. They like to do their work from within a misty fog of sentiment and song. And wouldn't we all. Bill was sitting in his office off the lobby of Roberts Center when I arrived to tell him what I had in mind. His door was open (of course). He was talking on the phone (of course). There was no secretary visible (of course). The phone still at his ear, he waved me in, though we barely knew each other at the time. A few minutes later he heard me out. And then he opened the books, made every number, coach and athlete available to me. The only information I never got was his age. "What do you want *that* for?" he asked at a later meeting, smiling. He smiled, but I never

knew his age until I read his obituary.

Years later, I'd see Bill at basketball games in Conte Forum. He could have had any seat in the house. He could have had a jeweled palanquin behind the home bench or a helicopter hovering over center court if he'd wanted. But he chose a couple of out of the way, off-center seats up in the crowd above the visiting team's walkway. When you know who you are, you're always there, so where you sit doesn't much matter.

Chancellor J. Donald Monan, SJ—who as BC president was Bill's partner and admirer and friend—gave the homily at the funeral Mass. He began with an image of "the sturdiest" New England "oaks that are the last to shed their leaves." Bill, he said, was that oak. He was right. Bill was a natural the way oaks are, and you only had to be with him five minutes to know it.

As every ninth-grader knows, the essence of tragedy is the natural who falls, whose talents are in the end a curse, too large a burden, too heavy a gift. Bill never stumbled under the weight of his abilities. He was prolific, true and honored all his long life. It's the rarest of stories. He was a blest man.

*Ben Birnbaum*



# On Afropessimism

HOPE IN THE "HEART OF DARKNESS"

Since my return to Boston College last January after six months of teaching and research in Kenya, one question has been asked of me often: "Is there hope for Africa?" The question is poignant in light of the starving refugees, ethnic violence, kleptocratic dictators and dubious revolutions that make news about Africa today. V.S. Naipaul, a Trinidadian writer knighted by the British crown, was once asked what future Africa might hope for. He responded bluntly: "Africa has no future." Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* caught the tone of my American questioners with greater emotional force: "I seemed to hear the whispered cry, 'The horror! The horror!'"

There is surely horror in Africa today. There is the poverty; everywhere the poverty. In addition, at Hekima College, the Jesuit theological faculty in Nairobi where I taught, students and staff are regularly harassed by Kenyan police on the make for bribes. In Western eyes, Kenya, like Nigeria, was once full of economic and political promise. But Amnesty International has recently conducted a Kenya-Nigeria campaign targeting the two countries as gross violators of human rights. On a trip that included a lecture on human rights in Lusaka at the University of Zambia, my host and I were carjacked by four armed men on the campus of the university itself. Before a weeklong visit to Rwanda I had spoken of the "events" largely between Hutu and Tutsi in 1994 as "the civil war" or the "massacres." But after three days on the Rwanda-Zaire border with 200 orphans, and after seeing thousands of still unburied bodies near Kigali, I had no difficulty following the lead of my Francophone Rwandese students back in Nairobi in speaking of *le genocide* and referring to those who orchestrated it as *les genocidaires*.

When the word *genocide* enters one's daily conversa-



*When the word genocide enters one's daily conversations, something radical has happened.*

tions, something radical has happened. "The horror!" is too tame to express the sight and smell of almost mummified corpses, lined up neatly in rows. The temptation to think there is no future for Africa is real.

But it is a temptation, not an adequate response. This for three reasons. First, Africa remains the "heart of darkness" in the Western imagination—a land of peoples we Westerners see as fundamentally "different." This has long led to selective comparisons of Africa and the West. The West, of course, has written literatures, scientific knowledge and technologies that are considerably more developed than their African counterparts. But these achievements easily blind us to the West's dark uses of its accomplishments. The number of people slaughtered in 20th-century Europe exceeds what Africans have done to one another many times over. When Africa is called unsuited to democracy we do well to remember that the West invented Nazism, Fascism, and the Marxist-Leninist-Stalinist ideology. When condemning African tribalism as primitive, it is salutary to remember the Basque country, Quebec and Northern Ireland today, as well as all the modern wars of the French, English and German tribes. And in contemplating the genocide in Rwanda, we should be clear that the name of this crime had to be coined to describe the policy of the German government but 50 years ago, and that the crime was attempted again in the Balkans (part of "Mitteleuropa") only a few years ago. Ethnic hatred is not a demon to which Africans are distinctively vulnerable. From a moral point of view, Africa is not really different from (read inferior to) the West. We just like to think so.

Second, the political and economic institutions of Africa today are not indigenous; they did not grow



organically from the traditions of African peoples. The sovereign nation-state was invented in modern Europe, roughly in the mid-17th century, in response to religious conflicts and ethnic wars. When independence from colonial rule came to Africa, the nation-state structure was put in place throughout the continent without regard to its fit with traditional modes of African social organization or the appropriateness of borders drawn by the colonial powers. Only today is the European Union approaching a balance of national sovereignty with the need for cooperation among the diverse European “tribes.” It should be no surprise that African peoples have not achieved such a balance in the few decades since the nation-state system came to their continent. The short time Africans have been grappling with this huge issue is itself a source of hope. So is the fact that they are doing so at a time when modifications to the state system are on the wider global agenda.

Third, and most important, there are the people themselves. In my courses in Nairobi I did not encounter generic Africa; I met students from more than 15 different African countries with faces, voices and names like Rutagambwa (from Rwanda), Chilinda (from Zambia), N’kisi (from Zaire), Djimoguinan (from Chad) and Latzoo (from Ghana). Some in the same classroom were from peoples presently at war with one another; some had lost numerous family members

in these conflicts; some had themselves been refugees. But their voices carried deeply felt words of hope and of commitment to seek justice, new institutions of freedom and peace and new understanding of one another across ethnic boundaries.

The words I heard in my Nairobi classroom reminded me of many discussions of a “new South Africa” that I had heard in that country some years ago, when apartheid was still law and when many Westerners predicted that the land of Mandela was headed for a bloodbath. South Africa faces huge problems still, but the prophets of bloodbath were wrong. When I listened carefully to Rutagambwa and Chilinda and Djimoguinan I heard something of the voice that must have sustained Mandela during his 27 long years in prison. I heard that same hope coming from the intelligent minds and compassionate hearts of the students I had the privilege to teach, and the privilege to learn from, in Nairobi. When we Westerners really listen, we can learn how very much like us are the men and women of Africa. We can hear a voice of hope calling us not to turn aside in misguided pessimism but to help in their struggle.

*David Hollenbach, SJ*

*The Margaret O’Brien Flatley Professor of Catholic Theology, David Hollenbach writes widely about global human-rights issues.*

PEAK EXPERIENCE—“Betty Prior is late this year,” says Stanley Bezuska, SJ, of the pink rose that is the pride of his garden. Professor emeritus and founding father of what any baby boomer will remember as The New Math, Bezuska is director of BC’s Mathematics Institute. But it is his quirky garden, tucked next to St. Mary’s, that has earned him celebrity among the thousands of students who pass it each day. Since the early 1980s, he and his sister have tended the plot, packing it with flowers, statuary, even a dwarf blue spruce named Fat Albert. While showing off the garden one day this June, Bezuska was startled by a hearty “Hi! Father B!” in a throng of students passing by. A young woman waved wildly. Bezuska waved back, waited until she’d passed, then observed, “I don’t think I know her.”



LEE PELLEGRINI



# REPORT CARD

## How the world's third- and fourth-graders fare

U.S. third- and fourth-graders rank near the top of the international heap in science achievement, and their mathematics skills are slightly above average, according to a report released in June by researchers at BC.

The report, issued by the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), consolidated data from a three-year survey of classroom achievement by 500,000 third- and fourth-graders in 26 countries.

Both third- and fourth-grade U.S. students ranked third in science, behind South Korea and Japan. In mathematics, U.S. fourth-graders ranked 12th, and third-graders ranked 10th. Students in Singapore and South Korea were the top performers in mathematics.

A TIMSS study of math and science achievement by seventh- and eighth-graders in 41 coun-

tries, which was released last November, found U.S. students' performance to be barely above average in science and well below average in mathematics ["Caned and able," Linden Lane, Winter 1997]. Educators offered a variety of possible causes for U.S. students' drop in achievement between the fourth and eighth grades. They pointed to repetitive, unfocused math and science curricula; lack of motivation in middle schools; and informal tracking that steers most eighth-graders away from studying algebra. President Clinton cited the latest TIMSS study in a White House press conference on June 10, at which he issued a call for high national education standards.

The lagging performance of American third- and fourth-graders in mathematics may indicate a curriculum deficiency, said TIMSS co-deputy director, School of Education Research

Professor Ina V.S. Mullis.

TIMSS researchers cautioned against drawing quick conclusions, however, noting that their latest results offer no ready formulas to high achievement in math or science.

"As in the previous TIMSS reports, we did not find simple relationships between student performance and school variables such as the amount of homework, length of the school day or year, or the amount of time spent in mathematics and science classes," said the study's director, School of Education Professor Albert Beaton.

The project, which is administered by the TIMSS International Study Center at Boston College and sponsored by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement, is scheduled to release its report on high-school seniors' math and science achievement next year.

## FAST TALKERS

Fulton Debaters ranked 19th out of 100 debate programs nationally this year; University of Missouri-Kansas City placed first. In the Northeast, BC placed second, ahead of Dartmouth, University of Vermont and Harvard.



## TURBO SCIENTIST

As a freshman, John Gleason '99, coauthored a paper in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, "the most difficult

journal in chemistry to get papers accepted in," says Professor Amir Hoveyda, in whose lab Gleason works. "I don't know of any other college freshman who has had a paper published [there]." Then this spring Gleason was one of 20 students chosen for a \$5,000 Pfizer Summer Fellowship. He will use it this summer, continuing research into new ways of making potential pharmaceutical compounds.

## SEASONAL CATCH

BC's efforts to help students win academic fellowships paid off this spring with six Fulbright scholarships: Christopher Ahearn '97, will travel to Germany to study 18th-century philosopher Friedrich Schiller. Presidential Scholar and Finnegan Award winner Jennifer Lanigan SOE '97, will teach in France. Matthew Monnig '97, MA '97, also a Presidential Scholar, will study Pope John Paul II's influence on the Solidarity movement in Poland. Christopher Boudreau '97, will travel to Japan to study breakthroughs in virtual reality. Cathleen Coyle '97, will teach in Belgium. And philosophy graduate student Melinda Alison Arnett will do dissertation research on Hannah Arendt in Germany. In addition, Kefryn Block '99, won a National Security Education Program grant, and Presidential Scholar Emily Hack, '99, won a Goldwater Scholarship from the Excellence in Education Foundation.

# URBAN OUTPOST

## BC goes downtown

The Boston College Club, a private facility for BC alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends, will open in early 1998 in the BankBoston building at 100 Federal Street in Boston's financial district. The new club will feature a formal dining room, a grill and a bar. It will serve primarily as a luncheon club, but will also offer a limited breakfast and dinner menu, as well as some social activities.

"Major universities, especially those in or near big cities, com-

monly have a club for the convenience of their alumni," noted Vice President for University Relations Mary Lou DeLong. "More than 20,000 Boston College alumni live or work in Boston, so this club will offer them a chance to reconnect in a pleasant, relaxed atmosphere."

Financial Vice President Peter McKenzie added that "the club will provide members of the Boston College community working or living in town with obvious opportunities for mak-

ing business connections in an informal, collegial setting."

The University is operating the club in partnership with BankBoston and Club Corporation of America, and members will enjoy reciprocal memberships in Club Corporation of America's 230 other clubs across the country. Membership costs will include an initiation fee plus annual dues. Members of the BC community will receive information about the club and the membership process in the mail.



## HEAVY MEDALS

BC faculty received an exceptionally large number of fellowships and awards this year: Political Science Professor Susan Shell and Assistant Professor of History Marilyn Johnson received fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies. English Professor Alan Richardson and Assistant Professor of English Elizabeth Graver won Guggenheim fellowships. Assistant Professor of History Alan Restall and Associate Professor of History John Rosser received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. And Assistant Professor of Communications Lisa Cuklanz won a Fulbright Scholarship. In the Chemistry Department, Assistant Professor John Fourkas received a \$200,000 Beckman Young Investigator Award and a \$50,000 Cottrell Scholarship. Assistant Professor Marc Snapper won a National Science Foundation Faculty Career Development Award worth \$360,000 over four years, and Assistant Professor Scott Miller won a \$20,000 Petroleum Research Fund grant from the American Chemical Society.

## DEATHS

- ❖ Alicine M. Bracco, an administrator with Dining Services from 1990 to 1997, on May 15, at age 58.
- ❖ Dr. J. Joseph Burns, physician for Boston College athletic teams from 1950 to 1993 and a member of the Boston College Sports Hall of Fame, on June 15, at age 82.
- ❖ John G. McElwee, JD '50, University Trustee from 1978 to 1986 and a 1987 recipient of an honorary doctor of laws for his service and dedication to the City of Boston, on April 4, at age 75.
- ❖ William J. Flynn '39, athletic director from 1957 to 1992, on June 27, at age 81.

# Act I

William P. Leahy, SJ, on his first year in office.

An interview by BCM Editor Ben Birnbaum

**BCM:** What are the three most unbelievable things you've heard about yourself in the last year?

**Leahy:** [Laughter] If I'm restricted to only three, then number one would be that I was going to reinstitute parietal hours for the opposite sex in the residence halls; two, that the administration wanted to cover up the student gambling problem; and three, that I was going to dismiss faculty who'd posted signs saying they supported University recognition of the student gay and lesbian group.

**I'll let you have a fourth.**

That I canceled Midnight Madness because I want to downgrade BC athletics to Division II, if not III.

**Are you surprised by these?**

Not entirely. Questions about my identity are to be expected, especially after a long period with a leader people knew well and trusted. Naturally, people are trying to figure out who I am: Am I for athletics, against this or that idea, a person who listens, a person who acts? After a while, as people get to know me, these questions will fall by the wayside and so will the rumors. In fact, I find that's already beginning to happen.

**Are you a "conservative Catholic?"**

As you know, that idea began to fly even before I got here. And while I don't see myself as an extremely complex man, I really do hope that my religious faith and my relationship with the Church can't be reduced to a



GARY GILBERT

phrase or a generalization—whether conservative, moderate, liberal or whatever. In terms of the Church, for example, there are things that I would conserve, things I would leave alone and things I would change, and that's the problem with labels. In the end, I think that while faith is a gift to be lived and shared, it is also a personal and complex matter, and always evolving as you learn more about yourself and the world and God's presence in it.

But again, this kind of speculation is typical when there's a change in leadership. New college presidents tend to surface all kinds of hopes, fears and projections. Like all men and women, I'd prefer to be judged by what I do as opposed to what people believe I might do because of what they think I might be.

**Where's BC headed?**

Upward. In September we'll announce the details of a five-year academic plan that will dramatically enhance the quality of BC's

faculty, students, undergraduate, graduate and professional programs and research.

There are two reasons for doing this. The first is that you simply can't stand still. BC became a top-40 ranked university by overtaking a lot of institutions that for some reason couldn't or didn't move forward as fast as we did. If we don't make progress, we move backwards relative to others and, more importantly, relative to our own responsibilities.

Second is that we simply need to keep getting stronger. We owe it to ourselves, to our students, to our graduates and to our mission. Mediocrity isn't an option. That's not to say you don't struggle as you move along. But your goal has to be excellence; certainly ours is.

**In the past year you've spent a fair amount of time meeting with alumni and others who are interested in BC, and I'd guess that you've gotten several earfuls about what's right and what's wrong on the Heights. What are some of the recurring themes that come up when people talk to you about the University?**

Well, I heard comments on many things. But in terms of themes, the ones that come up most frequently are pride in BC and the position it's attained, and a concern that BC not forget its religious roots and educational traditions. I think some of our supporters are concerned that in becoming a national and even international university we have overreached our mission. I found that very interesting.



**How so?**

I think there's a sense behind this that a mission is something that's formed once and forever preserved the same way. Nothing could be further from the truth, of course. If our mission once focused on immigrant Catholics from Boston's neighborhoods, now it is to tend to young people not only from Boston but also from neighborhoods around the country. And if our mission once was to teach, now it's to teach and also to promote research and the dissemination of knowledge—because that's a greater contribution, to the world and to our students, and we should always try and make the greater contribution.

**If you could change something about BC, what would it be?**

First, I'd make us better at integrating intellectual and spiritual concerns. Second, I'd make us academically stronger and more diverse at every level. And third, I'd improve our level of service to students in all areas.

**That's really four things.**

[Laughter] We should always try and make the greater contribution.

**Roughly speaking, how do you spend your working days?**

My days vary. I spend a lot of time in business meetings with administrators, faculty, students and alumni. I spend many evenings at various functions or meeting with BC friends and supporters—followed by a return to the office for paperwork.

**You've made it a point to meet informally with students, some of whom made a public issue of something you said during one of those talks last spring. Any regrets about being that accessible? Any plans to avoid meeting with students in residence-hall lounges?**

No regrets and no change in plans. From a personal standpoint, I have to be accessible to succeed. I learn from talking with people. I also enjoy the company of students and like to know what they think and like them to know what I think and to know me. And if sometimes they misunderstand my meaning or I misunderstand theirs, that's a danger in any relationship, but if the relationship is important you work it through.

**Do you have time for yourself?**

I think it's important to have time for yourself, and so I like to take a day during the week when I can catch up on my reading, take a walk, get into my car to see if I can learn how to drive in Boston.

**You'd be the first to succeed. What books are you reading?**

I'm reading something called *The Catholic Philanthropic Tradition in America*, by Mary Oates. I have a long list of books I want to get to, most in history, higher education or religion. And someday I may find time to finish a Tom Clancy novel I started in October.

**Did you learn anything from the gambling problem or Jim O'Brien's departure?**

I learned a lot about the depth of people's care for BC. They hurt when we hurt. In both situations it was not hard to figure where we needed to come out, and we got there. Athletics, someone once told me, is a lot like a medical school. It's got a lot of potential benefit for a university but it carries risks as well. We've just got to make sure we continue to receive the benefits, and I'm confident we will.

**When you arrived at BC, you said you'd spend a year "listening and learning." What have you found that surprised you, that nobody told you before you were hired?**

BC is a large, complex place, so no matter how much I was told, there remained a lot to learn. But even if I'd known every fact about BC, I still would have needed to learn the culture. Every institution has a culture—its own language, customs and a set of understandings about the past and the future. And these are reflected in such things as how people treat one another; how work gets done; definitions of success; how people convey bad news or good news. All of this is part of culture, and you can't learn that from a distance.

**How do you assess BC's financial health?**

Well, first we have great strengths in our physical plant, our business practices and our gross endowment, which is approaching \$700 million.

But that doesn't tell the whole story. For example, when we talk about the endowment we need to remind ourselves how it translates into income support per student, which is the number that really matters.

In 1996, the last year for which we have comparative numbers, we had \$2,337 of income support per student from endowment. By contrast, Notre Dame had \$6,000 to spend on each of its students from endowment income, while Brown had \$5,300 and Duke had \$4,300. Or, to put it on another resource scale, Notre Dame raised more than \$90 million this past year and we raised \$27 million. Now if you want to say that Duke, Notre Dame and Brown shouldn't matter to us, you can set this concern aside. But in fact they are our peers, competitors for students, faculty and corporate support. So this is important.

**We're in the majors now with major-league aspirations but without major-league endowment funds or financial support.**

Exactly, and it's not because we're not capable of raising that money, or that our alumni aren't capable of supporting us significantly. But we are for various historical reasons late on the scene. Other universities have been at it longer than we have, as a result of which they have more resources. We have to work harder at it. One of my jobs is going to be to help raise the funds that enable us to make excellence our hallmark in every appropriate area. This is a very serious issue for Boston College. If we could combine new development dollars with our proven ability to get the most out of our money, we would be absolutely formidable.

**I recently heard someone ask you if your ambition for BC was that it be the best Catholic university in the country, and you said, if I can paraphrase you, that that wasn't enough of an ambition by your lights.**

We need to reach high. All year I've been telling people that we need to be ever stronger as a university and ever faithful to our religious and educational missions. This means that BC's contributions to its students and to society should be as large and as helpful as possible, and we should not limit our aspirations or abilities to "Catholic" issues, as many Catholic institutions did in the past.

But it also means that our being a Jesuit university is a great and unique strength. Our identity provides us with an important role to play in our society, and with goals that other universities don't have. Standing in the long Catholic intellectual tradition, BC can be a bridge between faith and other forms of culture, a place that insists that life and our human gifts are worth taking seriously and celebrating. In these times that's a countercultural message and one that needs to be heard.





FOUND ART—Printmaker Alison Saar routinely picks through trash for art's sake, believing that cast-off materials are imbued with spirits and memories. In *Snake Man* (1994), she printed the figure's body from a discarded panel of cracked linoleum, transferred the image to a lithographic plate and then overlaid the resulting print with a woodcut. Saar completed the work at Vinalhaven Press off the coast of Maine, and is one of 11 artists featured at the McMullen Museum of Art exhibition *In Print: Contemporary Artists at the Vinalhaven Press*, on display through September 14.

# The stratosphere

## A WEATHER REPORT

**An administrator writes:** At 8:30 A.M. on Thursday May 29 I dropped my briefcase at the office and walked over to Fulton 511 to spend an hour among scholars.

My destination was a session of "The Jesuits: Culture, Learning and the Arts, 1540-1773," a five-day, year-in-the-making affair whose offering of opening and closing panels, 14 working sessions, four plenary sessions, a lecture recital and a roundtable drew 147 academics from around the world to discuss and reassess the Jesuit enterprise from its beginnings to the papal suppression. This venture—sponsored by BC's Jesuit Institute—was afterwards declared by the Jesuit scholar John O'Malley to be "a major redefining moment in the historiography of the Society," and I have every reason to believe him because no one who writes history as well as he does (*The First Jesuits*: Harvard, 1993) deserves to be doubted on anything.

Not being a Jesuit, scholar or pope, I had naturally no personal stake in how things got redefined. But I do enjoy scholars the way many people seem to enjoy prizefighters—not because I want to be one or could be one, but because I am beguiled by cultivated eccentricities, guild-based ritu-

als, lives that spin away from small questions, and training practices that are rigorous to the point of self-harm.

It had been a while (25 years) since I'd been in a classroom seat, and I carefully chose my hour-long session. Under the title "Styles of Thought," it promised a stew rich and thick enough to sustain me another quarter century if that proved necessary. The lineup was Rivka Feldhay, of Tel Aviv University, on "The Cultural Field of Jesuit Science: 1630-1690"; Margaret Murata, of UC-Irvine, on "Jesuits and Music Histories," and Jean Dhombres, of l'Université de Nantes, on "The Discourse of Jesuit Mathematics: A Logic of Space, a Control of Proportions Away from Numbers," which tantalizingly promised in the preview abstract to "reevaluate the logic of space which justified the discourse of Jesuit mathematics." That may have been too much to offer, however, because the first announcement by the moderator in Fulton 511 was that Dhombres had canceled.

Feldhay, on the other hand, was raring to go. Slight and blond in a serious navy suit, talking like she was already out of time and radiating a fiery intelligence, she told us, according to my notes, that her talk aimed at "systematizing



a discourse about the scientific activities of Jesuits at a particular stage of their evolution.” She then went on to speak of “the space of Jesuit science,” “the notion of a cultural field,” and “Jesuit science between the 20s and 80s”—which I believe everyone in the room but me immediately synthesized as a reference to the 17th century and not to the period bracketed by Gatsby and Boy George.

In the end, I couldn’t maintain the pace. Though I continued to take notes on the music—“the diffusion of Cartesian Studies,” “an epistemological status of possible opinions,” “filters screening the significance of concepts”—I lost track of the plot. Soon I fell into a shameful practice dating from undergraduate days: I searched out the celebrities in the audience. Though small, about 50 people, it turned out to be a fertile group. Ian Richardson appeared almost immediately, and it didn’t take me much longer to find Wallace Shawn, John Updike sipping from a paper coffee cup emblazoned with a red BC seal, and (with the aid of a little squinting) Clare Dane, Chuck Norris and George Gershwin. Looking at my notes, however, I find that I did not entirely lose my way. On hearing Feldhay say that the Jesuits had admitted algebra to the study of mathematics, I managed to scrawl, “No wonder they suppressed the Order.” I also took alarmed and impressed note of Feldhay’s final words: “But this is another topic for another talk.”

If Feldhay was darkly brilliant, Murata—young and cheerful and Californian in flowing, periwinkle blue—was brightly brilliant. Her aim was not the systemization of a discourse, but to draw some conclusions from one Jesuit’s efforts to write the world’s first comparative history of music.

Her man was Athanasius Kircher, an oddball and a polymath in the early-Jesuit tradition. (While music and mathematics were his academic beat, he would also create a hieroglyphic system of writing in which numbers substituted for nouns and that he idealistically intended should serve as a universal world language.) Murata took us on a quick tour of highlights from Kircher’s 10-volume *Musurgia universalis* (1650) that treated musics from ancient Egypt to contemporaneous Rome. Kircher, she said, was first to use music notation in a serious history and also first to posit that music was the same for every people but was modified in each culture by such factors as climate and geography. Germans, for example, “born under a frozen sky . . . acquire a temperament that is serious, strong, constant, solid and toilsome, to which qualities their music conforms.”

And Kircher’s connection with a major international organization allowed him to review musics from far beyond Europe, even if his research methods consisted largely of asking returned Jesuits to sing songs they had heard while in their exotic postings. Not surprisingly, the recollected tunes shared a distinctly Western European tonality, as Murata fearlessly and delightfully demonstrated by singing Kircher’s “Allah, Allah” and a “Confucian Chant,” neither of which sounded like it had ever crossed the Tiber, much less an

ocean or strait.

She explained Kircher’s theory of music and of history (I comprehended neither) and described his “musarithmetic” machine for musical composition that incorporated languages, rhythms and harmonies so that any words could be set to music by any person—though everything produced ended up set in a musical style Murata described as “a Counter-Reformation homophony capable of melismatic and contrapuntal elaboration.” She then made some concluding statements about Kircher’s unique notion of “ordering” that relates to “the anagrammatic nature of the permutation tables.” As no one else in the room seemed disturbed by this, I didn’t raise my hand.

The customary Q&A followed. Some people asked questions. Others had made good use of the hour to prepare speeches on subjects near to their hearts. A heathen in the sacred city, I kept my silence and thought how easy it is to make fun of those who chase sleek truth on the nag called knowledge, who are devoted to subjects that won’t ever be named in the next Gallup poll of citizen concerns, who spend a thousand midnights on projects that won’t win the war or the peace or mend the heartbreak of psoriasis.

So why do they do it? If I read scholars right, it’s because they can’t help it. The desire to know is simply human, and in full bloom it becomes a yearning as demanding as love—which is another chase that provokes laughter in the bleachers. And as every lover finds a love object, every scholar finds a subject to adore, however homely, odd or insignificant that subject may appear to other minds. Most extraordinarily, this happens even in America, where Ben Franklin once asked without expecting an answer, “What signifies philosophy that does not apply to some use?” and where the notion of the buffoonish “perfesser” is so strong that it’s been internalized by good scholars, like the man who once praised me after a meeting, “You know, you could have become an academic,” and immediately felt compelled to solemnly add, “and I really mean that in the best sense.”

“There can be no scholar without the heroic mind,” said Emerson, who knew what it took. That’s not to say that all scholars are heroes. As with fighters, there are contenders and bums. And in the end, of course, even if you start out a speed-bag wizard, there’s the excellent likelihood that you’ll tear a hamstring, take an unlucky punch or marry a girl who wants you to leave the ring and learn plumbing, and then you look back and find, as Eliot said of Every Poet’s fate—that you “may have wasted [your] time and messed up [your] life for nothing.”

I was stirred back to the present when the man seated nearest to me (from the back and above he almost resembled James Caan) snorted his derision in response to a remark from the floor concerning Mariano of Toledo. Shaking his head, Caan glanced to me for my thoughts. I just rolled my eyes. It was the least I could do. It was all I could do. ❖



# 75 Young Women

From 15 to 35 Years of Age,

WANTED TO WORK IN THE  
**COTTON MILLS**

IN LOWELL AND CHICOPEE, MASS.

I am authorized by the Agents of said Mills to make the following proposition to persons suitable for their work, viz:—They will be paid \$1.00 per week, and board, for the first month. It is presumed they will then be able to go to work at job prices. They will be considered as engaged for one year, cases of sickness excepted. I will pay the expenses of those who have not the means to pay for themselves, and the girls will pay it to the Company by their first labor. All that remain in the employ of the Company eighteen months will have the amount of their expenses to the Mills refunded to them. They will be properly cared for in sickness. It is hoped that none will go except those whose circumstances will admit of their staying at least one year. None but active and healthy girls will be engaged for this work, as it would not be advisable for either the girls or the Company.

I shall be at the Howard Hotel, Burlington, on Monday, July 25th; at Farnham's, St. Albans, Tuesday forenoon, 26th, at Keyse's, Swanton, in the afternoon; at the Massachusetts' House, Rouses Point, on Wednesday, the 27th, to engage girls,—such as would like a place in the Mills would do well to improve the present opportunity, as new hands will not be wanted late in the season. I shall start with my Company, for the Mills, on Friday morning, the 29th inst., from Rouses Point, at 6 o'clock. Such as do not have an opportunity to see me at the above places, can take the cars and go with me the same as though I had engaged them.

I will be responsible for the safety of all baggage that is marked in care of J. M. BOYNTON, and delivered to my charge.

**J. M. BOYNTON,**

Agent for Procuring Help for the Mills.

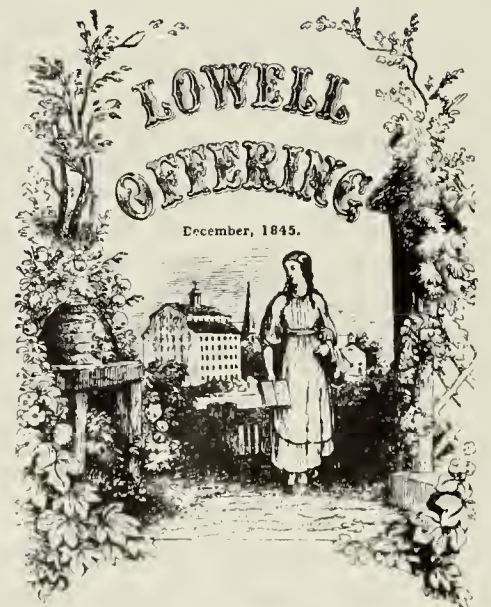


FOR A NEW ENGLAND FARM GIRL  
IN THE LATE 19TH CENTURY,  
THE MILLS OF LOWELL,  
MASSACHUSETTS, PROMISED  
ADVENTURE, FREEDOM AND THE  
POSSIBILITY OF ALTERING FATE.  
AN EXCERPT FROM *Unravelling*,  
A NOVEL BY ELIZABETH GRAVER

# he AGENT

KNOW HE WOULD COME TO THE HOUSE.

It took him three months—of other girls, other towns, other tables where he could leave a copy of his picture of the factory girl and the beehive before he stepped out the door. A traveling man, a busy man. During those months I had forgotten that I had not liked him, forgotten, too, that he saw pretty girl upon pretty girl in every town he visited. Instead, I convinced myself that he thought of me sometimes when he leaned back in the bounding coach between towns, shut his eyes, allowed his prepared speeches to float to the dusty corners of his head and be replaced by something else:





a dullness, mostly, a sickness at the smell of the stagecoach and the taste of dust coating his tongue. He shut his eyes to the passing view of village green, red barn, saltbox house after saltbox house, pigs nosing their way through mud. I was sure he preferred the darkness of his own eyelids to the sight of another farm town.

Sometimes, I told myself, I had to tell myself, sometimes he felt something else—a break in the pattern, a place where the coach rounded the bend and came to a pond flecked with light or horses cantering along a ridge. A longing. Then he would see my face.

He came on a Saturday in early September. Everyone but my mother; my sister, Harriet; the baby, Luke; and me had left at dawn to go work in the fields. We were cutting vegetables when the knock came, Luke feverish and fretful, the rest of us grateful that his cries had hiccuped into whimpers. I knew it was the agent from the sound of the knock on the door: firm and polite it was, friendly and determined at the same time. A practiced knock that listened to itself, not like the thumping of our neighbors, who banged to tell you they were there. I wished, then, that we had a door knocker like the ones I'd seen in catalogs: a brass lion with a ring through its nose, or a lady's long hand cupping an iron ball.

"Who could that be?" said my mother, looking up from chopping carrots.

I stared down at a bright chip of carrot peel in the crack between the floor planks. My mother went to the door. From where I sat, I could hear him: "The Boott Mills . . . getting to know some families . . . just a moment of your time."

Harriet, too, was listening hard. I picked up my brother from his little box crib, dipped my finger in honey and gave it to him to suck on so he would keep quiet.

"I don't know," I heard my mother say. "We're right in the middle of cooking, and my husband is out in the fields, and our youngest, the baby, has been feeling poorly—"

He told her the pictures he had brought would cheer up any little baby. He told her that for farm folks working their fingers to the bone, sending just one person to the mills could be a real help. None of this would have been enough to get past my mother if she had made up her mind not to let him in. From where I sat I could not see the way he looked at her, but I knew how tricky he was, how deft. He must have gotten past her with his eyes.

When she showed him into the kitchen I did not look up for a good half minute. My mother pulled out a chair, said she hoped he didn't mind sitting in here, but like she said, we were right in the middle of preparing a stew for the folks out in the fields, who had been out since sunup.

"My daughter Harriet," she said, and Harriet nodded.

"The little one is Luke," said my mother, "and my other daughter, Aimee."

Only then did I look up. He had not sat down. He was holding a hat with a smudge of dust on it. He carried the selfsame case. His voice said, "Aimee. Yes, I do believe we met—where was it? Down the road at the girl Eliza's, the one who's doing so fine down at the mills, is that it?"

His eyes said: I remember. I remember you.

"How do you do?" I said.

"Mighty fine, mighty fine. Nice to get out of the chill. This sure is a nice kitchen range you have here—awful handsome nickeling and gingerbread work. Is that a soft- or hard-coal stove?"

My mother's eyes narrowed. I wondered if she was about to change her mind and ask him to leave. It was, though, a stove she was proud of, not even a year old. She blackened it carefully, more often than she needed to, rubbing its stout belly until it gleamed.

"Hard," she said. "Tea?"

"Don't mind if I do, if it's no trouble."

"No trouble," she said.

"Don't mind," the agent said, and his eyes sought mine, "if I do."

As he took out the pictures, Harriet and my mother craned their necks and gathered round. I dandled Luke on my knee. He, too, must have felt a change in the room, something worth watching, for he stayed quiet. Because I had heard it all before, I did not have to listen. I watched. What I saw was a man from the city, two women from the country. His hair combed back from his forehead, their hair wound at the napes of their necks, coming loose. Sweat gleaming on their foreheads from





the cooking, the excitement of an unexpected guest. And something else—I caught it, studied it, a new thing, like a second guest who had crept into the house.

They were leaning toward him, my mother and my sister, one on each side. They were arching their necks so the skin stretched, tilting their heads and leaning in. Both of them, seeking out his space. They could not help themselves.

“Oh, yes,” said their voices. And “Interesting,” “Such tall buildings,” “You don’t say; it’s amazing. What will they come up with next?”

Something new, said their eyes. Something from outside. A change in the stale kitchen air.

Double-tongued, I thought. A snake in the grass.

They would see through him. Especially my mother would see through. I did not know what I

them at the same time, they watched neither each other nor me; the kitchen had become this traveling man. I felt, then, a sickness at the beauty of my mother and sister—each so different. Harriet with her face cast in the roundest, gentlest terms, always looking sleepy, her moist eyes staring out at nothing, like a cat’s. My mother with her clear, bright eyes, her forehead with each of her children written on it in a line, her hands damp with potato and carrot juice.

Get away, I wanted to shout out to them. He came to see me. Me. Leave well enough alone!

He was not looking at me anymore, but between me and them, caught in the current of the three of us, set off balance by us all.

He looked at my mother, leaned toward Harriet, turned and cast a quick, uncertain glance at me.

“The girls save a bundle . . . impeccable lodgings . . . industrialists from England . . . a modern miracle . . . the City of Spindles . . . nothing like it anywhere.”

“And you, miss,” he said, turning to Harriet. “If I may be so bold to inquire, what are your plans?”

Tell him about the man who wants to marry you, I thought nastily. How each Sunday he comes with flowers or a pie his mother made. Each Sunday they walked, and I watched them start down the road with a sour turning in my stomach,

not because I wanted him—he was a miller’s son, a dull, tall boy with raw knuckles—but because I knew that with him clutching her elbow, she could turn the bend and find herself in a whole new place.

“I—I don’t think I’m cut out for it,” she said, leaning to get a closer look at the picture.

“She’s planning to settle down and raise a family before long,” my mother said.

The agent backed up a few steps, away from the table. I leaned over my baby brother and kissed the side of his warm head. I could picture my small, sweet mouth, how it was shaped like a rose blossom pearled with morning dew. I was a girl in one of the romance stories in my magazines: *It was as if, when she opened her mouth to sing, a nightingale flew from a pink blossom and burst right into bright song.* The agent watched me—my leaning, my mouth coming

LIKE A SPELL, THOSE PICTURES PRINTED THEMSELVES ON THE INSIDE FLAP OF YOUR EYELIDS SO THAT THEY FLASHED BY AT EVERY BLINK AND WOULD SETTLE IN FOR GOOD WHEN YOU CLOSED YOUR EYES AT NIGHT. AMAZING, THE WAY THEY TOOK ON COLOR. BLUE SASH, WHITE DRESS, HONEY DRIPPING YELLOW FROM THE HIVE. I AM QUIET, DULL AND WELL BEHAVED, SAID THE GIRL IN THE PICTURE TO MY MOTHER. YOUR DAUGHTER WILL FOLLOW IN MY STEPS.

wanted: If she saw through him, she would not believe his speeches and would forbid me from going to the mills. It wasn’t that I thought he was lying about what was there, exactly, just that I thought his way of telling it was fake. But if she bought him lock, stock and barrel, my mother—wise, all-knowing, eyes in the back of her head—would show herself to be a woman who could be swayed by a city man’s smooth tongue.

As he took out picture after picture and gave his little speech, I could see how they, like myself, were concentrating not on his words, but on his person—how the arm leaned, brushed against the table. How the silver cuff links flirted with the light. The dark hair on his knuckles; the blunt square borders of his rosy fingernails and their pale half-moons. But while I watched him and



to rest on the downy head.

I began to chant in a whisper to my brother, jiggling him up and down on my knee: "Trot trot to Boston to buy a loaf of bread. Trot trot home again, the old trot's dead."

I could feel the agent's eyes on my hands, which were locked across the baby's middle. Luke let out a crowing noise, and I looked up.

"But Aimee's a little younger, not so ready to settle down just yet, eh?" he said.

Again I kissed the baby, and I felt as I lowered my head how the agent had once again come into my circle. My mother must have felt it, too, for she moved away from the table and stood between the visitor and me. My sister took some potatoes to peel and sat down by the hearth.

"We don't think it's a good idea," my mother said. "We talked it over already, me and her father, when Eliza from down the way went over there."

She coughed. "It looks like a nice place—" Then she smiled, met his eyes, polite, and something more. "But not for her. Thank you kindly all the same."

*Kabudly.* My mother, my *mother* said it the way a Southerner would, drawing out the middle, making it soft and open—like the traveling preacher who had held services once under a white tent and drawn out the words of the Bible in a way that had made my bones ache and my insides stretch so that I'd thought I might be about to let the Spirit in. This was not how my mother usually talked. I had never seen her this way before, not with my father, not with his friend Samuel Plain or her own children or the people at church. She was watching the agent carefully, and though she would not give him what he wanted, would not let me go, still she wanted to see if she could sway him with the music of her voice.

We're all the same, I thought, then. She's as bad as I am, honey dripping from her lips. It was a good thought, for it meant I was not alone. And a terrible thought, for it made my mother grow smaller before my eyes.

"So you've thought it over and decided against it, Aimee?" the agent said to me.

"She's training to be a schoolteacher," my mother said, and now her voice was hers again, clipped and certain, on the edge of anger: *This is my child you're dancing around. Training to be a schoolteacher. What I could have been and only was for six short months. Stay back.*

"Plenty of time for that," said the agent.

"I—" My own voice sounded, surprising me.

"She's just barely fifteen. Bit young to be away from home," said my mother.

This time I jumped in before anyone could stop me. "I've read Eliza's letters. I've read all sorts of things about the mills. There's lots of girls my age and younger."

"But you'd go only if your mother and father came round to seeing how it was a fine idea," said the agent.

I glared at him, and he gave me a quick, confident smile.

"Can't say that'll happen anytime soon," said my mother.

"I'd be mighty happy if I could get a chance to have a word with your husband," the agent said. "I reckon he's working hard—not a good year for the farmers. Are you expecting him back for some of that fine stew?"

"Not for a good two hours yet. They have a full day's work out there."

"I sure would like to meet him."

My mother was growing impatient. I could tell by how she had returned to chopping vegetables, cubes of squash piling up by her hand. "I'll tell him you came by."

"Why, I'd appreciate that," said the agent, looking into her eyes. "And I'll leave you some information so he can see what it's like for himself."

Like a spell, those pictures—the way he could leave them lying about in a kitchen, and the next thing you knew, they had printed themselves on the inside flap of your eyelids so that they flashed by at every blink and would settle in for good when you closed your eyes at night. Amazing, the way they took on color. Blue sash, white dress, honey dripping yellow from the hive.

I am quiet, dull and well behaved, said the girl in the picture to my mother. Your daughter will follow in my steps.

I earn money, walk among throngs of people, see things you cannot even imagine, said the girl in the picture to me. You will follow in my steps.

Harriet and my mother showed the agent to the door, but not until he had stood over me, extended his arm, taken my hand in his, pressed down on my fingers for the briefest moment and said, "Until We Meet Again." I gave him a broad smile, then felt it curl into a sneer. He brushed the baby's cheek with the crook of his finger, and Luke began to cry.



## THAT EVENING IT ALL CAME OUT.

"I know things about those mills," said my mother as we sat down to supper.

"So do I," I said.

"Yes, but I know different things."

"What different things?"

"Things you don't say at the dinner table. Who does he think he is to come knocking on our door without so much as a warning?"

"What different things?" asked my brother John.

"You should've seen this man," said my mother to my father. "Enough polish to shine the candlesticks. He should've been a play actor, not a factory man."

"You liked him," I muttered.

"What did you say, missy?" snapped my mother.

"Nothing." I poked at the carrots in my stew. They had lost their brightness in the cooking and turned soft and ugly as droppings.

"You answer your mother when she speaks to you," my father said.

"I said . . . I just said I thought you liked him all right, is all. You made him nice and welcome, you and Harriet."

"When someone comes to your door," said my mother, "you offer them tea. That's Christian charity. Your sister knows so, too."

I thought of the sampler she had taught me to embroider, which welcomed the tired stranger to our home. As I had sewn it, I had laughed to myself at how, before I stitched the *R*, it had read *WELCOME TIRED STRANGE*. I would have liked to have left it that way. The agent was a stranger, and strange perhaps, but he did not seem tired, and yet she welcomed him. Did my mother like the saying because it talked of charity, or because a stranger brought a newness inside her door?

"Anyway," I said, "Eliza's doing fine. I read her letter."

"Since when did anyone take one letter by a child as the whole gospel truth?" my mother asked, but she was flushed from what I'd said about her liking him, and, for once, it was she who would not meet my eyes. I looked at my father to see if he had noticed how she blushed, but he was bent over his food, his wide shoulders sagging. The year before had been a terrible time for wheat prices, and this fall did not promise to be better. My father came in from the fields each day looking dazed, and he spoke even fewer words than usual.

"I thought that agent was all right," said Harriet. "He's only working at his job, that's all."

"There are jobs and then there are jobs," said my mother. "Running all over the countryside trying to pluck young girls from their homes is not my notion of a job. If my children end up like—"

"If the girl wants to go," I said, "it's not exactly being plucked."

I thought of the Bible: *She seeks wool and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.* For months I had been saving up these lines, trying to find a moment to set them forth in my defense. I could point out that farming wasn't the best of lives either. Look how tired you are, I could tell my parents. Year after year, at the mercy of the weather and the insects. Look at the accidents that can happen on the farm.

In his crib Luke began to fret, and my mother got up and brought him to the table. "What have you heard about those mills?" she asked my father, but he looked at her dully, as if his mind were some place very far away.

"Who cares, anyway?" said my brother Jeremiah softly. Then, a little louder, "I say, Just let her go."

I felt a sharp jab in my calf under the table—his foot, striking me the way his voice did not dare to, in a hard, swift kick.

And before I could stop myself, I had reached across the steaming plate of vegetables in the middle of the table and slapped my brother hard across the face.

"Aimee!" my mother cried, and my father rose as if he might strike me.

I pushed back my chair and ran to the sleeping-loft ladder, up and away from them, rung by rung. My name followed me, sharp on my mother's tongue, but my father did not pursue me; he would never strike me now that I bathed behind a curtain. My leg throbbed from where Jeremiah had kicked me. Perhaps I would get a deep blue bruise. I wanted it—something to see, tangible and sore.

Thank you, I thought, then, to my brother, for he had given me a reason—an excuse, something—to go.

## LATER THAT NIGHT, AFTER THE

younger children were asleep, my parents called me down into the front room and shut the door.

"Sit down," said my mother, and I perched on the edge of the wooden bench and knocked quietly on it for luck. She stood over me and shut her eyes for a moment as if she were too tired to hold them



open. Then she looked at me.

"Tell me, did you make amends to your brother?"

I shrugged.

"You will. As soon as you leave this room. We do not strike other people in this home."

I swallowed, a foul taste in my mouth, and thought of my father slapping me when I was small. I wanted to say that Jeremiah had kicked me first, to let out a long list of every time I had been pinched and slapped, but I did not dare. They looked large, both of them: my mother folding her arms over her chest, my father standing behind her.

"Aimee, Aimee. You have this . . . temper in you, like a sickness, a fever," she said. "I don't know what's come over you. You used to be so different, off playing by yourself and doing your schoolwork. The schoolmistress tells me you're not yourself lately, losing patience with the children and letting your work fall behind." She sighed. "I wasn't supposed to say anything—she hoped you were going through a spell, but Lord help me, I just don't know. What's come over you? Can't you tell your own parents that?"

I shook my head.

"I can't hear you," said my mother.

"Nothing."

"Oh no?"

"Nothing's come over me. Lots of girls want to go work there—"

"Lots of girls would drive a horse off a cliff if it was the week's fashion. I hoped you had more sense. I guess I should tell you the things I've heard. If, after all that—"

"Heard from who?"

"People at the church, or who've been there. Friends. People with good ears and eyes, who aren't trying to sell something. It's not all in those magazines of yours, I can tell you that, with their fancy pictures."

"Eliza's a friend, and she's been there. I read her letters. She says it's just fine."

"What I heard," said my mother, "is that those girls dip snuff to keep the lint out of their throats. And it's so hot in there that the women work naked to the waist."

I shook my head.

"Naked to the waist, did you hear what I just said to you? Like savages." She hunched over and shuddered.

"You can't believe everything you hear," I said, quoting her, and she breathed in sharply, lost her

balance for a moment, then strode on.

"One girl—I heard this from Lily and Helen Perkins's mother, who heard it straight from her own daughter's mouth, and you yourself know Helen's a steady girl—one girl, she got in the way of one of those flying shuttles they have in those looms, and it pierced right through her like an arrow and came clean out the other side."

I pictured not the girl's pain, but the perfect roundness of the hole—through cloth, through flesh and bone—pictured bending down and being able to peer right through her, like looking through a keyhole to the room beyond. I would love to be able to look clear inside myself, through myself. My mother was speaking in her storytelling voice. *The shuttle was magic*, I almost expected her to say. *And out of the hole grew poppies and tulips, and the*



*tulips opened their red mouths and said, "Take me," and the girl was bad and so she did.*

"All the money those girls make they spend on trifles," she went on. My father nodded hard, standing behind her with his eye on the door. "Fabrics and lace and whatnot from those mills. You have a weakness for all that. Harriet I would send with a cleaner conscience. She'd tire of it soon enough."

Under her words I detected something else. It was the smallest, stingiest sliver of understanding—of "I know what you long for because I, too, have longed." Lace would not bore my mother, who pressed plants into the Bible—lilies where it said Lilies of the Field, vines for the Keeper of the Vineyards—and sewed triangles of tin into our quilts so they would catch the light.

"But Harriet doesn't want to go," I said.



She told me about sickness and tardiness and how the girls were punished and how they fell from grace and lost their pews at the church and how even though the Irish and the Yankees fought, the girls still ended up marrying dirty Irish ditchdiggers if they were lucky, and many weren't even so lucky as that.

"They never come home after that, those girls," said my mother, and I heard a raw spot in her voice.

Then I looked deep into her eyes, which I did love more than any other eyes in the world, the irises rimmed with the thinnest band of pond-water dark brown-green. When I was younger, I had stared into those eyes for long moments, my height placing me level with her gaze while she sat sewing by the fire, until she'd laugh and tell me to go do something,

a bad place, this town you hate so much, these people—" He waved into the air as if they were all around us and grunted. "You on your high horse."

"So just go right ahead and let me fall."

They both stared at me.

I shook my head in frustration. "So let me fall off my high horse."

"Too clever for your own good, little girl, with all your big jokes. I don't know what to do with you anymore," said my mother. "You don't go hitting your brother at supper—you don't—" Her voice broke, and I thought, Please don't cry; you're too old.

When she spoke again, her voice was calmer. "With the baby running a fever, and the trouble with the harvest, and you with your work at school falling off . . . I—to tell you the truth, I just don't know what to do with you anymore. Tell me

what to do, why don't you? Tell me. Do you understand? Do you know how tired I am? If you were your own mother, what would you do?"

I shrugged, and her voice grew angry. "Tell me, what would you do?"

"I guess I'd let me go."

"You want this?" she asked quietly.

I nodded. The word *want* did not sound strange and vulgar in her mouth, but a word like any other. What did my mother want, the way she had made her

voice dip for the agent? Her voice was careful now, the voice of a good mother, tired but good. I nodded again: I want this; I do. I want.

"After all we've told you?"

"But you don't know—"

She slapped her hands together. "I know a girl shouldn't go running off by herself when she's barely grown. I know what I've heard, which is more than you've heard, but if it's what you persist in wanting —"

She looked at my father. Don't worry; he doesn't care, I wanted to tell her. He cares about the crops and one more mouth to feed.

"I just can't have them hitting each other," she said to him. "I can't have even the grown ones acting like babies. This one and her brother . . . I don't know what's come over them." She turned to

"WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO?" MY MOTHER ASKED.

MY WORDS CAME OUT MUCH SURER AND CLEARER THAN MY THOUGHTS. "TO SEND HOME SOME MONEY TO HELP HERE, WITH THE WHEAT PRICES SO BAD, AND I DON'T KNOW, TO SAVE SOMETHING FOR MY DOWRY LATER ON AND TAKE ALL THOSE CLASSES HE TALKED ABOUT."

"THAT'S WHY?"

"AND I GUESS TO SEE SOMEWHERE ELSE. IT'S NOT SO FAR."

instead of hanging about like a soul bewitched.

"I'll come home," I said.

When I have worked like the women in the Bible and brought my food from afar. When Jeremiah will allow himself to love me again, and my mother will look straight inside me and see nothing but her girl: a clean field, a bright plate, a sky.

When (for I could feel my life hardening like a piece of old, dry bread, crumbling smaller and smaller) I have seen the world.

"You say that now," my mother said.

"I will. Where else would I go? It's just for a year or two, and all the girls go home in the spring for a while, when the freshets come. I can earn two hundred dollars, enough for a dowry. I'm tired of this pla—"

This time my father interrupted. "It's not such



me. "Why do you want to go?"

My words came out much surer and clearer than my thoughts. "To send home some money to help here, with the wheat prices so bad, and I don't know, to save something for my dowry later on and take all those classes he talked about."

"That's why?"

"And I guess to see somewhere else. It's not so far."

She paused, and I pictured her imagining tall buildings and new people, looms run by water, lessons in languages we had never even heard of—all those things she had never seen or done.

"All right," she said, finally. "You go, then, if you persist in wanting to, but don't you start taking work in one of those closed-off hot rooms. I never could do right by you, since the beginning. I never could manage you like the others. Go, if you're so set on it." She turned to my father. "Maybe it will quiet her down a little, let her see that it's not so bad here. Lord knows, she's been in a bad enough humor lately. Of course, it's your decision, in the end."

"Can't hurt, I reckon," said my father doubtfully, "to give it a try. It'd help her put away a nice dowry, anyhow. With the barn roof going, and wheat prices how they are, and Harriet and her fellow carrying on, money won't be stacking up in corners. Not that we couldn't scrape something together, always do, but she can always come home if it don't suit her. It's what girls do nowadays, I figure—the way the men go West. She seems set on going, and we all know that girl has a mule's will."

It was more words than I'd heard him say in months.

My mother nodded. "And if she earns anything, she'll keep it for herself, like you said. I don't hold with taking it from her, like the Cummys. We don't need it like they do. I don't want folks saying we're putting our own to work for pay. As long as it's clear she's doing it to put away for her own family when she has one." She breathed in deeply. "Girls didn't go off like that on their own when I was young, but it's not the same times, and people do know that."

"Eliza seems to be doing all right," said my

father uncertainly.

"They need the money, crowded into that little shack," said my mother. "We don't need to set our own to work. If she goes, it's not because of that."

In her voice I could hear her family pride—how she stepped down in marrying my father. I thought it must be why she was usually the one to decide what her children should do, for my father walked around with a slight air of shame and only burst out every once in a while with his own erratic will. I did not know if most mothers and fathers were like this, or only mine—his temper so strange and violent when it came, and yet so rare; her will staring at me from every corner, every wall I climbed over, each spoon I lifted to my mouth.

I could imagine them at the beginning, how my

*THEIR LIVES, I REALIZED, WOULD FILL IN WITHOUT ME.  
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SAME TIME, HOW MUCH COMPOSED BY CHANCE MY  
FAMILY WAS—AND HOW INESSENTIAL, REALLY, MY OWN  
SELF WAS TO IT. I COULD SLIP INTO A WELL AND DROWN,  
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THING ELSE, PERHAPS A NEW DAUGHTER BEFORE LONG.*

father brought wheat in to be ground and she stood in the door of her father's mill with the tally sheet, marking figures down with an important hand, still just a girl. That was on Saturdays. Weekdays she was working at the school—to better herself, she said. Not because she had to. I know how she looked back then, can picture it—how level her brown gaze must have been, how calmly and knowingly she looked up at him, this tall, wide young man with the wheat. I picture him courting her by bringing it to be ground in dribs and drabs so he would always have an excuse to come back.

Much of this I have had to invent. My father did not talk to me, and I could not turn the rough, silent man I knew into a suitor of any sort. I have had to piece him together from the bits of stories my mother told me when she thought I was too



young to remember. Even then, they were stories; I never knew—I'll never know—how much was true. Beneath me, the scuffed toes of my boots stared up at me. "Stepped down," I thought. I did not know why she had married him, if there had been no better prospects or if somehow he had really won her heart. I placed one foot on top of the other, pressing hard until my toes hurt.

Doesn't my mother care for anything, I found myself thinking, except the neighbors' prying eyes and her own tiredness? How easily they let go, how little convincing, finally, it took for them to let me go away, as if the ghastly stories my mother had heard had been replaced, in a matter of seconds, by new stories about how today, girls went off on their own. Or maybe she remembered the



agent, felt his pull. Or perhaps things were worse off than I realized on our farm, even if my parents would not say so out loud.

Their lives, I realized, would fill in without me. For the first time I saw how sturdy and, at the same time, how much composed by chance my family was—and how inessential, really, my own self was to it. I could slip into a well and drown, and for a time they would cry and wring their hands, but then the crops would need tending, the baby would be crying, and though they would not forget me, my spot would fill in with something else, perhaps a new daughter before long.

My baby sister, Anna, had died at four months old, six years before. Already that was what she was—the one who had died. For a short while I had seen her everywhere I looked—the folds of her

wrists, knees and neck, her pink tongue, her eyes—brown like our mother's, as gentle and long lashed as a calf's. Then I had seen her now and then—when I saw another baby at church, or when Luke was born, so much hardier, his head perfectly round where hers had been pinched, his eyes blue and darting. I had loved my baby sister, Anna's, eyes; I used to get so close to her that our lashes brushed and stare into them, wondering what such a solemn baby thought before words.

Later I hardly ever pictured her, except as Anna The One We Lost, a headstone in the church. Like a bruise that turns purple one day, yellow the next, only to disappear into the skin, she left us. Now we had just a silhouette of her, traced by a peddler a few weeks before she died—a shadow even then, the edges of her face so soft that even on that stiff, black paper they looked blurred. I had been both impressed and troubled by how quickly we had all moved on. Supper, we had eaten, on the very day of her death. We had combed our hair and climbed under the covers. When darkness fell, we had slept, to wake again. Even as I had swallowed my potatoes and licked the pork gravy from my lips at supper, I had thought how the world should stop for an instant when a life went out of it—how my heart should stop for my sister, if only for a beat. But my heart was as strong as an ox, as clenched as a fist.

When I got up from the bench, I felt weightless, as if I had been leaning my whole body against a heavy rock, trying to move it, and suddenly the rock had disappeared, leaving me tipping into the air.

*Elizabeth Graver teaches English at Boston College and is the author of "Have You Seen Me?" (Ecco Press, 1993), which won the 1991 Drue Heinz Prize for short fiction. Her stories have appeared in many journals and anthologies, including "The Best American Short Stories" and "Prize Stories: The O'Henry Awards." This excerpt is from her first novel, "Unravelling," published by Hyperion in Angst. She is currently writing a second novel with the help of a Guggenheim Foundation Award.*

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# The JUDGMENTS OF Solomon

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FOR LESLIE HARRIS,  
THE LAW IS NOT  
THE ISSUE. IT'S THE  
CHILDREN WHO COME  
BEFORE HIM  
EVERY DAY

---

BY BRUCE MORGAN  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY LEE PELLEGRINI

Last winter, a 14-year-old Boston girl we'll call Liza stole a \$230 silver necklace from a downtown department store. She got caught. Now, the skinny black girl stands anxiously beside her mother in a courtroom at the Suffolk

County Court House, less than a mile from the scene of the crime. The courtroom is majestic. Spindled mahogany rails separate the gallery from the lawyers' tables, and huge, arched windows admit a weak March light. Gazing down from his bench, Judge

Leslie E. Harris JD'84, a broad-shouldered black man with a trim beard and mustache and metal-rimmed professorial glasses, shakes his head once, almost imperceptibly, and then begins. "I am very sorry to see you here today,"

he tells Liza. "We are all strangers—you don't know any of us—yet you have placed your life in our hands." Liza dabs at the corners of her eyes with her fingertips. "I'm glad to see you crying; maybe some of my talk is getting through to you. This is



JUDGE HARRIS, IN FRONT OF  
THE SUFFOLK COUNTY COURT HOUSE, BOSTON.





serious. Do you understand the agreement that you've made? You will attend this after-school program through June. I don't want to see you back in this court—as a defendant, anyway. You might be back here as a court officer or a social worker or a lawyer or even someday as a judge. But don't come back here as a defendant." After a pause, Harris adds, ever so lightly, "OK." Liza turns and leaves the courtroom, with her mother's arm tight around her and tears streaming down her cheeks.

The next case concerns bespectacled, soft-spoken Rochelle, 15, also black, who recently ran away from home and spent the night at a friend's house. Rochelle's mother, a heavyset woman with large spangled earrings, plans to marry a man her daughter hates. Rochelle and the fiancé have fought repeatedly. Rochelle says he tried to choke her, and that's why she fled the apartment. But Harris doesn't buy it.

"This doesn't make sense," he says. "Here you

are, a student at Boston Latin, one of the best schools in the country—and I know because I live right next to that school, just a block away—and yet you're doing this." The judge rises suddenly, ominously, and begins to pace back and forth behind the bench in front of glass-faced bookshelves. "You put your friend's mother in jeopardy for harboring you. That's not *fair*. You're putting your own future in jeopardy. And that doesn't make *sense*. It's not as if you were a slow person or were suffering some developmental disability and didn't understand what was going on. You understand very well what's going on here."

The judge gives Rochelle a long, steady look. "When you sign this court document, that's serious. You must obey it or answer to this court why you did not. You must obey your mother's curfew and be in the house by 8:30 P.M. If there's a special occasion, then you discuss that with your mom and work something out. If you don't, you will spend

THE JUDGE'S CHAMBERS, ROOM 171.





up to 90 days in jail. That doesn't make sense at this point in your life. You're young, you're a bright person and you don't want to throw your future away just because you can't get along with your mother's boyfriend. You can see I'm getting mad, but I'm not mad at you personally. I'm mad that you're here in my court." Equally stung by the judge's message, Rochelle and her mother slowly depart, arm in arm.

These two cases have gone faster than expected. The next case is not scheduled for another 25 minutes. Harris glances over the acrostic he had clipped from the *Boston Herald* earlier this morning. Meanwhile, a white-haired court officer has snatched up a microphone and is bellowing, in an exasperated tone loud enough to be heard out on the street, "Will all parties in the Donovan matter please come to Courtroom 220."

Judge Leslie Harris has traveled a long way to get here. Born in Chicago in 1948, raised as one of

seven kids in a housing project on the South Side and educated in one of the city's worst schools (among 36 Chicago high schools, according to the judge, "mine was ranked 34 or 35 all the time"), Harris was smart enough to follow the lead of the few people he knew who had attended college. He won a scholarship to study history at Northwestern University, on the other side of the city—"a rich party school," he says coolly—where he faced the culture shock of a campus that emptied many weekends as his classmates flew off to Florida. In 1970 he moved East to earn his master's degree in Afro-American Studies at Boston University, and he tried out a series of possible careers, teaching grade school and working as probation officer. It was during the latter, watching the lawyers in court, that he glimpsed his professional home.

After earning his degree from Boston College Law School at the age of 36, Harris worked briefly as an assistant to the director of the Boston Museum

THE WAITING AREA, ROOM 166.





HARRIS GAZES STRAIGHT AT MIRANDA. "YOU DO NOT WANT TO GET PREGNANT, YOUNG LADY," HE SAYS. "YOU ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO TAKE CARE OF A CHILD. YOU DON'T WANT TO BE HAVING A BABY AT 15 YEARS OLD. DON'T YOU HAVE NO BABY. YOU WAIT ON THAT. GET YOUR SCHOOLING FIRST. WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE IN YOUR 20S. WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE 28. PERFECT TIME TO HAVE A BABY—OR 30, EVEN BETTER. YOU CAN GO TO COLLEGE OR TO LAW SCHOOL IF YOU WANT. YOU LIKE TO ARGUE, TO SOUND OFF AND HAVE YOUR OPINIONS."

of Afro-American History and as a hearing examiner for the Brookline (Massachusetts) Rent Control Board. Next he spent a combined seven years in court, first as a Roxbury public defender and then as head of the Suffolk County District Attorney's juvenile division. He loved the courtroom, harboring no greater ambition than to fight for justice on behalf of clients raised in what he calls "circumstances like mine."

When his father died, in 1993, that changed. "What I finally realized," he explains, "is that in order to make a difference for people, especially young people, the best position to be in is to be a judge." So he began the arduous process of applying for a judgeship: an initial flurry of paperwork, an interview before the judicial nominating committee, a grilling by the governor's legal counsel, and then a private audience with the governor himself. Hundreds of lawyers applied for a judgeship; only four were chosen. William Weld appointed Harris an

Associate Justice of the Trial Courts of Massachusetts, assigned to the Suffolk Juvenile Courts as a sitting judge, in September 1994.

Harris typically hears five or 10 cases a day, mostly in one of a handful of small, plain courtrooms opening off a central corridor on the first floor. In his first case today, the judge sat behind a utilitarian desk that might just as well have been used by a U.S. Army recruiter. Flags stood at attention in the corners of the room.

The Suffolk County Court House is full of surprises. Built in 1894 and hidden behind the modern brick-and-glass sweep of the JFK Federal Building on Pemberton Square, it is a five-story white granite structure so elaborately ledged, notched and curlicued on the outside that it resembles a Second Empire wedding cake. But it is a wedding cake with metal detectors at the doors. Tense, distraught people pack the lobby and hallway of the juvenile court, which is jammed in a

*continued after Alumnotes*



# Alumnotes

1997 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## The Way it Was



Alumni Association  
President  
Richard J. O'Brien '58,  
GSSW '60

My year as president of your Alumni Association has drawn to a close. I've stated to those who know me that I felt like Rip Van Winkle. I had

been elected to the Board of Directors in the latter part of the 1960's and then embarked on a career which took me to many locations in this country where I had an opportunity to lead Boston College alumni clubs. But I was always far from the campus and rather out of touch.

In recent years, I returned to the Alumni Board as an officer and then as president for the past year. The Boston College Alumni Association is quite different from that of my past experience. Former Boards served a constituency

which was primarily Boston-based and which asked only for social, fraternal contacts with alma mater. Today, your Board of Directors is responsible for an association which offers programs, spanning undergraduate to retirement years. We serve our members, our alma mater, and the marginalized of our society, and this fills me with pride.

Academic 1996-1997 ushered in a new era of university leadership as we welcomed a congenial Midwesterner, Rev. William P. Leahy, to the presidency of Boston College. The Alumni Association marked this occasion with a leadership conference in early November. The 300 alumni leaders not only heard of Father's aspirations for Boston College, but also were treated to splendid presentations from BC's best and brightest, especially its students. The Alumni Board has noted that such a leadership conference should be more than an occasional occurrence and recommends one be offered at least every five years.

Our annual Laetare Sunday Communion Breakfast on March 9th was notable in many respects. In an era of seeming indifference to our faith, 1,150 alumni and guests turned out to hear a stirring address by John Hume. The preceding Mass at St. Ignatius also held a personal best for me, as Father Jim Morris '72, a married priest of the Ukrainian Byzantine rite, concelebrated the liturgy and gave the homily.

We have long felt that alumni career services was a top priority, and this past year, under the leadership of Alumni Career Services Director Marilyn Morgan, we broke new ground as our career network became firmly established and a host of on-line services were introduced. The Career Advisory Network is now searchable via the World Wide Web—and over 1,000 alumni used this service in the first four months it was available. In fact, the '96-'97 academic year saw over 5,000 alumni world wide take advantage of the revamped Alumni Career

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### BOSTON COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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##### Association

##### Alumni House

825 Centre Street

Newton, MA 02158

(617) 552-4700

(800) 669-8430

www.bc.edu/alumni



*continued from page 1*

Services: everything from a local alumnus meeting with a career counselor on campus to a California grad's request for a reciprocity arrangement to use a local university's career center.

Strategic planning received our close attention as the Association appointed a committee led by president-elect Tom Martin '61 to draw up a plan which will move us beyond the millennium. With superb guidance from two professional consultants, the committee members intensively probed to identify the needs of our alumni and the university. The outcome is a working blueprint for us to serve you better as we seek also to demonstrate our con-

cern for those in need. Of note also is our desire to strengthen leadership in classes and clubs, to improve communication with you and between the Alumni Association and Boston College which we view as a partnership. I urge you to request a copy of this new *strategic plan* and, of course, it's also available on-line.

This leads me to a mention of technology. The past year has seen us go on-line, and just as important, the entire university is on line with all areas available to you via the proverbial click. All of our programs reflect this new technology, as alumni can access information on activities and how to register for them. Many class correspondents

now publish e-mail addresses which will only strengthen a pre-eminent class notes section of *Boston College Magazine*.

I've only scratched the surface! My presidential experience has brought me to the campus from Springfield, VA, on over 25 occasions and to at least 10 alumni clubs. These encounters only convince me more than ever, that you are well-served by your alumni and university leadership and that you, our alumni constituency, care deeply about Boston College. I offer my best wishes to Tom Martin and the new Board of Directors. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your alumni president, and may God always bless Boston College!

#### TRADITION

University President William P. Leahy, SJ (left) gave a warm welcome to Father James F. Morris '72 and his wife Joy Prato Morris at this year's Laetare Sunday in March. Father Jim, a priest in the Ukrainian Byzantine rite who was ordained in 1993, was the principal concelebrant and homilist at the 47th annual Laetare Sunday observance.

The 48th celebration of Laetare Sunday will be held in 1998 on Sunday, March 22 and will feature guest speaker Sister Mary Rose McGeady, president of Covenant House, the national organization based in New York City that cares for cast-out and runaway children.





## GOLDEN EAGLES

**T**he Alumni Association is looking for a few good women and men. John S. Buckley '66, Chair of the Alumni Board's Awards Committee, announced that they are now accepting nominations for the 1998 Alumni Awards, presented each year to ten alumni who exemplify the Boston College motto, "Ever to Excel."

Alumni can be nominated for awards in the following categories:

- Eight Awards of Excellence, recognizing individuals who have distinguished themselves in the following fields: Arts and Humanities, Commerce, Education, Health Professions, Law, Public Service, Religion and Science. Boston College involvement is *not* a criterion.
- The Young Alumni Achievement Award, honoring an alumnus or alumna graduating in the past ten years who has shown exceptional service to profession, public service or alma mater.
- The William V. McKenney Award, the Alumni Association's highest honor, recognizing superlative service to profession, Church and alma mater.

If you have someone in mind you'd like to nominate, please send a letter describing the person's achievements along with any supporting materials to: John S. Buckley '66, Chair, Awards Committee, Boston College Alumni Association, 825 Centre Street, Newton, MA 02158-2527. Deadline for submissions is December 31.

## IN MODERATION

### Alumni Board reaffirms commitment to alcohol awareness

**I**n May '95, the Alumni Board adopted a policy statement on alcohol awareness, which was published in last fall's *Alumni News*. At that time, the Board committed to reprint the statement each year to raise awareness about the misuse and abuse of alcohol on campus, and the alumni role in this problem.

#### ALCOHOL AWARENESS POLICY

"We, as alumni of Boston College, hold a profound respect for our alma mater and a deep concern for all members of our University community. It is out of this respect and concern that we express our support for responsible use of alcohol by all Boston College students, faculty, administrators and alumni.

We believe that excessive use of alcohol among members of the Boston College community is an issue that cannot be ignored. Abusive drinking mani-

fest itself in behavior such as violence against others, damage to our facilities, poor academic and professional performance, and most alarmingly, increased health risks for those engaged in this activity.

We, as alumni, cannot ignore the role we play in creating perceptions among the undergraduates that excessive drinking is acceptable. We should be aware of how our behavior is perceived by students. Excessive drinking at campus events by alumni sends the wrong message: that this behavior is acceptable — even expected — of Boston College students or alumni. We should, instead, send the message that alcohol can be enjoyed and used in a way that is respectful of oneself and others.

As an alumni association, we recognize our responsibility to engage in and promote respon-

sible decisions with regard to alcohol use. Toward this end, we commit to:

- supporting the University's educational, health care and counseling programs directed at responsible decision-making regarding alcohol use;
- increasing alumni awareness of alcohol-related issues through educational and support programs;
- promoting and encouraging alternatives to alcohol-centered events;
- supporting those who choose to abstain from alcohol use as well as those in recovery from alcohol-related dependence.

It is our hope that the alumni of Boston College will emerge as positive role models to future alumni in order to create a reputation deserving of our motto, "Ever to Excel."

#### WEB WATCH

Did you know the Alumni Association is now on-line? Visit our site at [www.bc.edu/alumni](http://www.bc.edu/alumni) for up-to-date information on alumni programs, club activities and campus news. You'll also find links to Alumni Career Services and O'Neill Library. Coming attractions include an alumni e-mail directory, slated to come out later this year. Stay tuned!

#### THE THRILL OF VICTORY

Incoming Alumni Association President Thomas J. Martin '61 announced the results of this spring's alumni election during Reunion Weekend, held on the Heights May 16-18.

Eleven new members will join the Board this fall; they include executive officers Vice President/President-elect John S. Buckley '66 of Westwood; Treasurer Philip C. Hazard, Jr. '78 of Atlanta, GA; and Secretary Jean M. Graham '90 of Arlington.

Directors, who serve a two-year term, include: Angela R. Anderson '76 of Allston, Thomas D. Bransfield, Esq. '89 of Chicago, Gretchen Heeg Dobson '91, GSOE '95 of Franklin, Christopher Kip Doran, MD '68 of Denver, Daniel M.P. Foley '55 of West Roxbury, Catherine Beyer Hurst NC '66 of Cambridge, James E. O'Neil, III '80 of Walpole, and Setti D. Warren '93 of Washington, DC.

The Board of Directors is the volunteer governing body of the Alumni Association which directs programs and services for Boston College's 119,475 alumni world wide. The Boston College Alumni Association is the largest Catholic university alumni association in the world.

#### LIFE-LONG LEARNING

The Boston College Institute for Learning in Retirement is a program of peer-learning for retired and semi-retired alumni and friends of BC. The classes, which meet weekly, are small in size and committed to group study and lively discussion. For further information and to receive an application, call (617) 552-2950.



## 26

Charles E. Schroeder  
6735 Parkside Drive  
New Port Richey, FL 34653  
(813) 847-1092

## 28

Maurice J. Downey  
New Pond Village  
180 Main Street  
Walpole, MA 02081  
(508) 660-6958

In a previous issue of *BCM*, I reported that **Gene Plociennik** had joined the heavenly hosts. Since then, I have had a letter from his daughter, and it is so informative that I will include it, verbatim, in the notes for this issue: "Dear Maurice, Just a note to let you know that my father, Gene Plociennik, died on Jan. 21, 1997, at Metocom Manor Health Center in Bristol, RI. He died peacefully and quietly, just after having his dinner and going to bed. He was 93 years old and still had his faculties—knew all of us, which was a blessing. We will miss him, but my mother, Kay, has been gone for ten years and he missed her every day. Now they are together in heaven. My sister Anne '57 and her husband Bob Marshall '58 live in Pittsburgh; both have their PhDs and teach at the Univ. of Pittsburgh. They have three children. My sister Corrine is an RN and married to Devin Boyd, a teacher; they live in Canada. They have two children. I am a guidance counselor in the Providence school system and have my master's degree from BC in 1963. My husband is a professor at

Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI, and is a MSW, BC '62. We have four children and two grandchildren. We hope you are well and enjoying your new home. Best regards, Barbara." Similar letters will be certainly appreciated and published. Best wishes to all.

## 29

Robert T. Hughes, Esq.  
3 Ridgeway Road  
Wellesley, MA 02181  
(617) 235-4199

Here we go again for the Class of 1929. We have just been notified of the death of **Joseph R. Powers** on Nov. 19, 1996. He was a retired teacher from the Cambridge school system. We extend our sympathy to his son, Edward Roche Powers '53 of Duxbury, and to his daughter, Joanne E. Powers Roach of Wellesley. May his soul rest in peace.

• Some time ago, I received a very welcome letter from **Rev. Denis B. Sughrue**. Denny informed us that he is experiencing a lingering cold after a bout with the flu. All the best to you Denny, and we wish you a rapid return to good health. • **Dr. Bill Flynn** was inducted posthumously into the BC High School athletic Hall of Fame during the school's 17th annual ceremony held at BC High. Bill was a four sport athlete, and excelled at hockey, swimming, football and baseball. Bill's grandson, John, Jr., accepted the award on behalf of the family. • **Barr Dolan** paid me a very nice visit a short while ago. We discussed the report that there will soon be another gothic style building on the College Road side of the Chestnut Hill Campus. We also approved the appointment of the new football coach. Barr looks well, but says he intends to ease up a little on his insurance work. • As for myself, I have been in and out of hospitals for the last few months, and recently had my right leg amputated, so I am now a wheel chair victim. But, thanks to an angel on earth, my wife Ginnie, I'm getting along very well. I decided to go to the Laetare Sunday Mass and breakfast and see what news I might scrape up. There were very few of our class present, but with the help of **Jim Regan** and his daughter Ann, we learned that **Arthur Morrissey** recently retired from his teaching duties. • **Frank Vass** has been sick recently; I believe he has been released from the Lawrence Memorial Hospital and

now is recuperating at home. We certainly pray for his quick recovery.

• **Ed Keefe** has retired from his job as supervisor of schools in Nashua, NH. • My grandnephew, Ryan Quinn, will be a senior at BC in the fall. He has excellent scholastic marks and is head of the BC Sailing Club. His sister, Courtney Quinn, graduated from Holy Cross last year and is now a broker for Wellington Mutual Fund Co. in Boston. • That seems to be all for now. Let's hear from more of our classmates. *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam.*

## 30

Charles A. McCarthy  
2081 Beacon Street  
Waban, MA 02168  
(617) 244-9025

Not much news this quarter. As the old saying has it, "*Nemo dat quod non habet.*" Most of Feb. and March was spent by this scribe in Florida; it sure helps pass the winter. While in Florida, Mary and I attended a very pleasant reception for President Leahy, hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Vanderslice at the Royal Poinciana Golf Club, Naples. We came back to Boston, and reality, in time for Easter Sunday and the April Fool's snowstorm. However, in spite of four days without lights, heat and power, we give thanks to God for: safe flights, survival of a long winter, and that the snowstorm was an inconvenience, not a disaster! • Say a prayer for **Bill Mulcahy** who died April 28. May his sturdy soul rest in peace. • As I write, the sun is shining and the temperature is pushing up to the 80s.

## 31

Thomas W. Crosby, Esq.  
New Pond Village Suite B306  
180 Main Street  
Walpole, MA 02081  
(508) 660-1174

Greetings and congratulations on this occasion of our 66th anniversary. We celebrated the event June 9 at Newton Campus with the annual memorial Mass for our departed classmates, followed by a reception and luncheon at the Barat House. We were joined in these events by the Class of '32, celebrating its 65th anniversary. A more complete report will be forthcoming in the next issue of this magazine, as these notes

are being written prior to the occasion. • On Sun., May 25, **Father Tim Sullivan** celebrated the 60th anniversary of his ordination by a Mass concelebrated with Father John Sullivan of St. John Seminary. The Mass was celebrated at St. Bridget Church, Framingham. In attendance were Father Frank Strahan and Father Kenneth McAskill. Immediately following the Mass, a reception was held at St. Bridget's School Hall with a large group of parishioners in attendance, honoring Father Tim as their former pastor. • **Dick Ryan** reports that he is still active in the building trade as a consultant and appraiser. • As the news is quite scarce, and as we have not heard from many of you for some time, we thought it would be timely to mention a few names with the hope of getting a telephone call or short note for "old time sake." To name a few of you at random: John Carr, Dr. Dave Conway, Dr. Ken Dalton, Felix Doherty, Msgr. Jim McNiff and Dr. Charles McGee—more to follow in the next issue of this magazine. • The recent letter we received from the new president, Rev. William P. Leahy, SJ, was most appreciated and unequivocally establishes the academic standards required for admission to BC. • As you read these notes during the lazy, hazy days of summer, may they be healthful and pleasant. And again, hearing from you would be most appreciated.

## 32

Walter M. Drohan  
85 Nelson Street  
Winchester, MA 01890  
(617) 729-2899

The record breaking alumni turnout of over 1,000 made this year's Laetare Sunday the best ever. 1932 was represented by the ever faithful **Ed Hurley and Gerry Kelley. Fran Curtin**, despite his physical problems, also managed to get there. • **Fred Meier** recently had major ankle surgery. He will be undergoing a lengthy rehab program. • I had a chance to see the Jay McGillis Memorial spring football game. It was an outstanding performance by a squad of well-trained athletes. The quarterback corps is in very good hands with red-shirt freshman Tim Hasselbeck, Matt's younger brother, and Dave Robbins. • A much better schedule balance, with six home games, makes this season's setup very attractive. Following are the home games: West Virginia on Sept. 13;

## KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently moved, changed jobs or gotten married? Call us to update your record so we can keep you up-to-date on friends, classmates and BC happenings. You can call (617) 552-3440 to change your record by phone, fax (617) 552-0077, e-mail [infoserv@bc.edu](mailto:infoserv@bc.edu), or drop a postcard to Boston College Information Services, More Hall 220, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.



Cincinnati on Sept. 27; Georgia Tech on Oct. 4; Miami on Oct. 18; Pittsburgh on Nov. 1; and Army on Nov. 22. • Shake the doldrums and renew your youth by basking in the golden autumn watching college football at its most excitingly best. For those of us who make up the ever increasing number joining the cane brigade, there is free elevator service to get up to the stadium. • See you in the fall. Drop me a line so I can put your name in the forthcoming alumni magazine; think how proud your grandchildren and great-grandchildren will be to see your name in print! Be of good cheer.

## 34

Herbert A. Kenny  
804 Summer Street  
Manchester, MA 01944  
(508) 526-1446

**J.T. Lenahan O'Connell's** law firm, O'Connell and O'Connell, founded by his father, is marking its 100th anniversary this year. His father was the late Congressman Joseph F. O'Connell and was the first BC graduate to be elected to the House of Representatives in Washington. Lenahan recently returned from a trip to Colorado with the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Co. where they visited the Air Force Academy as well as other installations. • **The Rev. Jack Saunders and Bill Joyce** and his wife were at the President's Circle Dinner. • **The Rev. John Dillon Day** is back from a Florida vacation. • **Neal Holland** says his dancing days are over (classmates will remember his tap routine), so he confines his artistic expression to singing with the local choir. • **Ike Ezmunt**, our scholar footballer, is back on the golf course at Boynton Beach, FL, after a hernia operation. • Also thriving in FL are **Bill O'Donnell** in Naples and **Tim Donahue** in Atlantis.

## 35

Edward T. Sullivan  
286 Adams Street  
Milton, MA 02186  
(617) 698-0080

To begin with, we want to make sure that classmates know that the "John Murphy from California" who was disqualified after winning the Boston Marathon for men over 60 was *not* our own **Jack Murphy** from

Sacramento. It is true that our Jack Murphy had been running in marathons on the West Coast and had been planning to enter the Boston race, but he changed his mind at the last minute and decided to wait until 1998. He hopes that other members of the class will join him. At this point several members of the volleyball squad have expressed an interest. • **Walter Sullivan** did such a good job last year covering the Laetare Sunday Communion breakfast that he was entrusted with the responsibility again. Walter sent a personal note to 28 members of the class who were: 1. alleged to be alive, and 2. lived within a two-hour drive of Newton. The following showed up for the breakfast: **Dom DeStefano, Bill Hannan, Ray Perry, Dan Holland** with Mona, and Walter himself with the ever-loyal Katie. Regrets were sent in by only six: John Griffin, Jim McDonough, Bob Mead, Bill Nash and Tom Ryan. This was only a 39.3% response to Walter's special effort. • Next, we want to answer the most-often-asked question, "How is Dan Holland doing?" The answer is, "Probably better than you." Dan has earned the Broken Hourglass Award in view of the fact that he is now commuting to Boston five days a week and working from 10 am till 3 pm. If you can better this, please let us know. You will be eligible for this prestigious award which will be presented each year between the halves of the BC-Holy Cross table-tennis game. • The last of our **Ed O'Briens**, the one from Dorchester, and a triple Eagle, deserves some recognition. After graduation, Ed got his law degree at BC Law and married his wife, Gertrude. He then answered the call to military service, spent three plus years in the army, entering as a private and ending up as a second lieutenant in Paris at the close of the war. Gert and Ed raised and educated four children, two of whom graduated from BC, Ed Jr. '71 and James '73. Ed had one of the toughest jobs in the world, 40 years with the Boston Housing Authority, much of it as management supervisor with responsibility for projects from Mattapan to Brighton. At retirement, Ed was allowed to keep the bullet-proof vest he wore on the job. Gert, for her part, made an equally important contribution to society, 40 years of teaching children with special needs in the Boston public schools. Congratulations to Gert and Ed. • **Andy Murphy** and his wife Peg, retired on the Cape, can take well-earned satisfaction from the

success of their three sons. Andy Jr. '64 is director of morale, welfare and recreation for the Navy, stationed in Seattle; Dick '67 is a senior VP with Sealand, the international shipping giant, and his work takes him all over the world; and John, who studied business administration at Northeastern, has a responsible job with Kemper. Andy, for physical reasons, is dropping out of our volleyball squad, but Peg, who plays 18 holes regularly at Cummaquid, wants to take his place. (This is good because it will protect us against sex discrimination charges.) • **Dr. John McNulty** has volunteered to serve as team doctor at our volleyball games. He will sit on the bench with all kinds of life-saving equipment on hand. John has had a busy life, practicing primary care medicine, serving as medical examiner, and raising seven children. He lost his wife Ann two years ago and is living with his daughter Mary in Stoneham. His oldest son, John Jr., is a colonel in the Army and commanded a tank battalion in Vietnam. Another son, Richard, is currently setting up a dental practice on Martha's Vineyard. Patrick, one of his 12 grandchildren, is at BC Law. • As usual, we end on a sad note. News has reached us of the deaths of four of our classmates: **Tim McCarthy, Dick Cuniff, Frank Tansey** and **Joe Corcoran**. We will have much more to say about them in the next report, but meanwhile, we send our sincere condolences to Laura McCarthy, Maryann Cuniff and Louise Tansey. Joe Corcoran lost his wife Edith in 1995.

## 36

Joseph P. Keating  
24 High Street  
Natick, MA 01760  
(508) 653-4902

I recently had a letter from **Rev. Charles McKenney, SJ**, now stationed at Holy Cross. Father Charles started with us and then left somewhere along the line to go to Shadowbrook and join the Jesuits. He was trying to locate **Dr. John Lally**. I gave him John's address in Ridge, NY, but unfortunately he learned John had died last Nov. • We all have received copies of **Al Burgoyne's** letter of last March relative to making a bequest to BC—food for thought for all of us. • The annual class luncheon in May was again a very enjoyable get-together, and again thanks to **Brendon Shea**.

Unfortunately, Brendon was not feeling well, and he and Mary were unable to attend. In his absence, **Joe Keating** was DH for the day. **Bishop Larry Riley** offered grace and benediction and offered a prayer for our deceased classmates. John Wissler, Executive Director of the Alumni Association, spoke for a few minutes outlining current activities in the College and the Alumni Association under new president Father Leahy. And again thanks to **Jack McLaughlin's** "music man," light piano music was enjoyed during the luncheon. Those attending were Al and Julie Burgoyne, Gerry and Grace Burke, Joe Clougherty, Dr. Bob and Rita Condon, Denny and Madeline Dooley, Ursula Mahoney, John and Helen Fahey, Frank and Dorothy Hilbrunner, John and Virginia Haggerty, Joe and Mary Keating, Bernie and Mary Kelley, John and Helen Kilderry, George Mahoney, Jack and Gerry McLaughlin, Bishop Larry Riley, and Charlie and Kay Sampson. **Bill Ryan** had planned to be with us, but had to skip. In addition to the above, we also heard from **Frank Mahoney**; he and Gertrude were visiting their daughter in San Jose, CA; **Steve Hart** was in FL visiting and playing golf with his daughter; **Bob Cahill** is still living in Auburn; Marion and **Frank Delear** were visiting sons in CA; **Paul McGrady** sent smoke signals from Indian Hills, CO sending regrets; and a nice letter was sent from **George Goodwin**, recovering from pneumonia and relaxing in the FL sun. George always passes on news of **Leo Horgan**. Leo and Skip have moved to an assisted living complex in Plantation, FL. **Johnny Fiumaro** wrote he and Anna have moved into a smaller home in College Station, TX. All the above absentee voters sent their best wishes and wanted to be remembered to all other classmates. • Since the last issue of the magazine had already gone to press, I was only able to get a short statement in announcing the sudden death of **Tom Mahoney**. He and Phyllis had just returned from Korea where he attended and spoke at an international meeting on aging. They were visiting sons when he died in Palo Alto. At Tom's Mass, Bishop Larry Riley, representing the Cardinal (and the Class), gave a very moving discourse on Tom's life. Among those at the wake and/or funeral were Steve Hart, Joe Clougherty, George Mahoney, Frank Hilbrunner, Mary and Joe Keating, and I'm sure others that I did not see. Tom had a long and distinguished career in politics and



## WAYS OF GIVING

"BC has always been an important part of our lives. Our grandson, Daniel Brendan, is a member of the Class of 1998, and his sister, Mara Kathleen, is a member of the Class of 2000. They will join 17 family members as BC grads. Boston College is truly like a family to us. The Boston College Charitable Gift Annuity affords an opportunity to share and to care for alma mater and her future."

DAN AND MONA HOLLAND

Dan and Mona Holland live in Newton Center, Massachusetts. Dan, Class of 1935 is a "triple eagle," a Marine veteran of World War II, and an honorary lifetime member of the Law School Alumni Council. The Hollands are long-time members of President's Circle, the Law School Dean's Council and the Joseph Coolidge Shaw Society.

For a confidential, personalized example of the Charitable Gift Annuity, please contact:

Debra Ashton  
Office of Gift and Estate Planning  
Boston College  
More Hall, Room 220  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167

Phone: 617 552-3409  
Toll Free: 888-752-6438  
Fax: 617-552-2894  
E-Mail: [debra.ashton@bc.edu](mailto:debra.ashton@bc.edu)





education, and became an active member of the United Nations Organization on Aging. In this latter field, he travelled world wide speaking to many groups and world leaders. When and wherever he spoke, he also represented BC. His introduction to all groups or individuals always began: "Dr. Thomas Mahoney, a graduate of Boston College..." Not only did the class lose a great friend, but so did BC. The prayers and sympathy of the class are extended to the families of Dr. John and Tom. Please remember them in your prayers.

## 37

Angelo A. DiMattia  
82 Perthshire Road  
Brighton, MA 02135  
(617) 782-3078

I am sorry to report the passing of **John J. Bonner, Esq.** John was a lawyer and superintendent of the Boston Police Department. We extend to his wife Della and his son John, Jr. our condolences. He was a loyal member of the class committee. He attended many of our mini-reunion trips and performed all his assignments extra specially. • On Oct. 5, we lost another loyal son of the Class when **John W. Keefe** died of a stroke. We extend to his widow Eileen our sympathy. He also leaves a son, John, Jr., two daughters and six grandchildren. He was an avid sailor and a member of the Sandy Bay Yacht Club, which lowered its flag to half-mast at his death. John worked at Norfolk County Trust Bank and later joined John Hancock Life Insurance Co. in Boston. He retired at age 53. There were two Keefe men in our Class; John's brother Francis passed away in 1994. • **Col. Eugene S. Cronin** died March 28. He rose through the army's ranks during his 30-year career, retiring as a colonel in 1972. After retirement, Gene did some teaching in local schools, serving as assistant principal at Gibbons High School in Petersburg, VA. He was a fourth degree of the Knights of Columbus in Petersburg. He is survived by his wife Rita; a daughter, Kathleen Kennedy of Richmond, VA; and a sister, Sister Anne Eugenia of Richmond. • I received a nice card from Ruth and **Bob Provasoli** from Hawaii. He claims his is too old now to travel. • May the sun always shine on **Charlie Iarrobino**. He always gives me a call when he comes to the States from Ireland. •

There is a rumor that the Alumni Association will have a 60th anniversary party for the class this spring. I will report on this in the next issue.

• I heard from **Jim Doherty**, who had a gall bladder operation. We hope he is doing well now. • We pray for our deceased classmates and for all that are sick in our classmates' families. • We extend the best to all classmates who have reached their 60th anniversary; hope you have a good summer. BCing you.

## 38

Thomas F. True, Jr.  
37 Pomfret Street  
W. Roxbury, MA 02132  
(617) 327-7281

**John Castelli** has written mentioning that he thought **Msgr. Stanton's** passing had not been in the last notes, but I think it was in the fall issue. Thanks, anyway, John. • **Allan DeMarco** has retired, but is now an officer of his local SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) in Clearwater, FL where he lives. • Another retiree, **Paul Donaher**, has a condo in Pocasset on the Cape. • **Paul Kelly** was a much decorated flyer in the World War II Army Air Corps: three distinguished flying crosses, four air medals, a Bronze Star for outstanding performance of duty, a China-Burma Battle Medal and an Asiatic-Pacific Medal. • **Ann and Charlie Kimball** recently (May 24) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at their winter home in Clearwater, FL. • Since our last notes, the following have passed away: **Frank Fallon** on Jan. 26, **Jules Chavanne** on Sept. 6, **Bill McKeever** on March 25 and **Jim Cahill** on March 5. Let us remember all of them and their families in our prayers. • **Jim Kissell** makes hand-made wreaths at his home in Kennebunk, ME. His local paper recently carried a write-up about Jim and his wreaths. • **Henry Dean** is still a classical pianist. We met Henry at Father **John McLaughlin's** wake. • At the '38 table for the Laetare Breakfast were Herb Scannell, Phyllis and Paul Mulkern, Peg and Joe Horne, Ruth and John Castelli, Dot Schultz, and Ruth and Tom True. • **John Janusas'** recent biography to me covered two type-written pages. We would like to add all of it to our notes but allotted space won't allow. A lot to be proud of, John! • I received a note from **Tom O'Connor** (Salem Tom) from Riverside, CA. Tom mentions

our 60th anniversary coming up next spring. Hope to see you then!

## 39

John D. Donovan  
12 Coulton Park  
Needham, MA 02192  
(617) 449-0736

Greetings—and this time we can start off with some good news re. class activities and class members. Since our last report, we had two occasions for class get-togethers which were quite well attended. **Charlie Murphy** chaired our Laetare Sunday Alumni Breakfast which featured John Hume, a distinguished social democrat and active peace negotiator from Northern Ireland. His theme emphasized the need for a focus on the acceptance of diversity rather than a preoccupation with geography. Class president **Paul Keane** and **Frank Sennott** had planned to attend but their doctors advised them to prioritize some scheduled surgery. They were missed, as were **Bill McCarthy, Fr. Joe Fallon** and other Laetare Sunday regulars. The following '39ers were, however, present for the breakfast: George and Pat Devlin, John and Mary Donovan, Ann Fitzgerald (Dave's wife) with two friends, Larry Fitzgerald, Peter Kerr, Charlie and Natalie Murphy, Ed Quinn, and Arthur and Mary Sullivan. • The good news sequel is that Paul Keane and Frank Sennott came through their surgeries with flying colors and are now following medical advice and taking it more or less easy. Congratulations and continued good health to both of them and all the rest of us, too. • For the next few weeks, things quieted down with some folks heading South, others cruising, and still others making the most of shorter trips and record breaking snow storms. But our Officers never take a break! Paul, Larry, Charlie and Peter got together and arranged for an April 27 museum and library tour plus a reception in the new Carroll School of Management atrium. Present for the interesting guided tour of the paintings of some distinguished contemporary women artists—and for the excellent dinner, drinks and discussions—were: Anne and Al Branca, Beryl and Herb Chernack, John Donovan, Bill and Winifred Donovan, Mrs. David Fitzgerald and two guests (Dave is still hospitalized), Larry Fitzgerald, Florence and Paul Keane, Marie and Peter Kerr, Gina McCarthy, Mary

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently moved, changed jobs or gotten married? Call us to update your record so we can keep you up-to-date on friends, classmates and BC happenings. You can call (617) 552-3440 to change your record by phone, fax (617) 552-0077, e-mail [infoserv@bc.edu](mailto:infoserv@bc.edu), or drop a postcard to Boston College Information Services, More Hall 220, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.

and Jim McGrath, Frederick J. Molloy, Natalie and Charlie Murphy, John F. O'Donnell, Ann Peyton, and Mary and Arthur Sullivan. • Unfortunately, all this good news has recently been overshadowed by the deaths of **Robert Harrington** in San Francisco, **Herb Rooney** in Ripley, TN and Mary Brennan, wife of **Frank Brennan** of Winchester. The Harrington family suffered a second loss just a few weeks later with the death of Robert's brother Vincent, a long-time and popular professor in the Carroll School of Management. We remember them in our prayers; **Peter Kerr** has already sent Spiritual Bouquets to Robert's widow, Dagmar, to Herb's widow, Martha, and to Frank and his family. • One final note: at the April 27 museum tour and reception, a 15-page collection of Bill McCarthy's class notes (1983-1997) was presented to those in attendance. It was a Class of 1939 tribute to Bill's loyalty and service. This Maroon and Gold tribute is an "interesting read," a trip down memory lane describing the who, what, where and when of Class members over the past 15 years. If you are interested in receiving a copy, just contact me by telephone or mail at the address above and it will be in the mail to you pronto. Oh yes—don't forget to send along news!

## 40

Daniel J. Griffin  
170 Great Pond Road  
N. Andover, MA 01845



## 41

James J. Kiely, PhD  
2 Forest Lane  
S. Hingham, MA 02043  
(617) 749-2021

The Class wishes to express its thanks and appreciation to **Dick Daley** for the many years of faithful and loyal service as Class correspondent. Understandably, Dick has asked to be relieved of this assignment because of increasing personal commitments to his family. **Jim Kiely** and **Joe McCafferty** have volunteered to assume the assignment as Class correspondents. Accordingly, they welcome any news items you care to send along. Dick will, however, continue to serve as Class treasurer. • Along with our thanks to Dick go thanks to **Nick Sottile**, who has once again agreed to serve as the Class coordinator for another year. Nick has done a tremendous job of keeping us informed about events taking place at the College and insuring our recognition as a distinguished class of loyal alumni. • The Class wishes to extend condolences to the family of **Rev. Tom Grey, SJ**, who died March 27 and also to the family of **Herb Arnold**, who died Nov. 23, 1996. May they rest in peace. • **Bishop Joseph Maguire** observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination as Bishop on June 24. He graciously invited all classmates to attend the 4pm Mass at St. Michael's Cathedral in Springfield, and to rejoice with him at the reception immediately following. John Wissler, Executive Director of the Alumni Association, arranged bus transportation for the class. • **Kaye and John Kehoe** observed the 50th anniversary

of their marriage last April. • Anita and Jim Kiely will be observing their 50th in Aug. • By the time we go to press, **Gene Goudreault** will have returned from his extended trip throughout Spain. We look forward to his recounting his experiences with Iberian culture and local customs. • **Fr. Gene Brissette, SJ** is at Campion Center, 319 Concord Rd., Weston, MA 02193. He extends his enthusiastic greetings to all via his recent visitors, Nick Sottile and **Frank Galvani**. • In residence at Campion Hall also is **Fr. Frank Larkin, SJ**. We remember Fr. Frank as a member of our sophomore class at the Heights. Many of us will remember Fr. Frank as a capable teacher, actor and director of theatrical performances. Included in his repertoire of productions were plays by Shakespeare, Checkhov and other classical notables. During his tenure at the Heights, he championed the building of a separate facility for dramatic performances—a most worthy commitment to the pursuit of the arts at the College. • **Msgr. Tom Finnegan, Fr. Jim Rogers** and **Fr. Mike Jansonis** have all retired to the Cape. They are kept very busy assisting the local parishes by celebrating Mass and helping with other related parochial duties. • The Class was well represented at the annual Jay McGillis Spring Football Game on Sat., April 26. In attendance were Jack Callahan, Frank Galvani, Gene Goodreault, Bill Maguire, Lucian Magri, George McManama, Joe McCafferty, Nick Sottile, Joe Bishop and Frank Hegarty. • The Class welcomes Tom O'Brien, our new football coach, and Al Skinner, our new basketball coach. • Last, but by no means least, the annual memorial Mass for our deceased classmates and their families took place Wed., June 4 at 11 am at the Newton Campus Chapel. The Mass was followed by the annual luncheon at the adjacent Barat House.

## 42

Ernest J. Handy  
84 Walpole Street Unit 4-M  
Canton, MA 02021  
(617) 821-4576

Kindly remember Joseph F. Strumski, father of four, grandfather of ten, great grandfather of eight, and younger brother of **Leo Strumski**, in your prayers. He died Feb. 3. Leo has had two such tragedies in the last year. • Your prayers

are also requested for **Steve Levanitis**, who died March 28. Steve taught industrial arts and coached football at Foxboro High School. Condolences to his widow Doris and son Mark. • Thanks to **Tom Hinchey**, the Class was well represented on Laetare Sunday. Tom reports, "the speaker, Mr. Hume of Ireland, was fabulous. The theme of his talk was 'international disputes should be settled by words rather than bullets.'" Others in attendance included Jim Boudreau, Thelma and Fran Doherty, John Fitzgerald (my no. 1 news contributor), Virginia and Terry Geoghegan, Paul Heffron, Jerry Joyce (my no. 1 replacement), Frank Mahoney, Paul O'Hara, David O'Keefe, Bill Quinn, Leo Strumski, and Paul Trifiro. • En route home in April, after a delightful winter in Naples, FL, **Ed McDonald** suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized for nine days. As of this writing, Ed is recovering nicely under the tender care of his loving wife, Dorothy. • Louise and **Jack Hart** became proud grandparents of their second grandson, Harrison, born in May to daughter Bonnie. • After two postponements, one for the 50th anniversary of the parish where he had been pastor for 26 years, the second for the celebration of his own golden anniversary as priest, **Sam Lombard** requested and was granted senior priest, retirement status, effective June 17. Copies of his biography which appeared in the April 11 issue of *The Pilot* are available on request. • I quote from the book *Over The Beach, The Air War in Vietnam* by Zalin Grant: "Neither had **John Iarrabino** gotten much sleep the night before. As the Oriskany's captain, he seldom spent more than three hours a night in his bunk, and that was usually divided into 15 minute catnaps, taken in his uniform with shoes off, in the small sea cabin to the rear of the bridge." He and his brother Charles are "the only two brothers in US Navy history to skipper the same capital ship." The Oriskany, incidentally, was a major aircraft carrier involved in the Vietnam War. The book is excellently researched. • Our annual memorial Mass and reception, held this year on June 3, were both well received. There were 41 classmates, seven widows and 22 guests in attendance. • In spite of coronary bypass surgery in Jan., **Fr. Dan Barrett** coordinated all matters pertaining to the Mass said in memory of those who passed away in 1996 and 1997, including: **Ed Zabalsk** (March 14), **John E. Kelley** (June 5), **Claire Keating**, widow of **Dick Keating**

(July 10), **Saul Zusman** (July 27), **Ralph Powers** (Aug. 11), **Joe Sullivan** (Oct. 6), **Paul Salipante** (March 1) and **Steve Levanitis** (mentioned above). • Distant travelers included Jim Hawco and Bill Duggan from NY; Ned Martin, Jack McMahon, Jim O'Brien and Jim Stanton from FL; and our furthest traveler, Paul Livingston from CA. Our thanks to **Dan Barrett** and **Jim Stanton** for making our 55th anniversary celebration a day to be remembered. Be sure to read the next issue for further details. • We congratulate our recently elected alumni officers and welcome the Class of 1947 as our newest Golden Eagles. • The tailgating season has begun. **Frank Dever**, **Jim Cahalane** and I invite and welcome you to join us on Shea Field before and/or after each home game for a bit of refreshment, solid and otherwise.

## 43

Thomas O'C. Murray  
14 Churchill Road  
W. Roxbury, MA 02132  
(617) 323-3737

First of all, my sincere thanks to **Ernie Santosuosso** for his great work on the last column while I was basking in the warm sun of Florida. Secondly, many, many thanks to all who paid '97 dues—and especially to those who gave an extra amount for our upcoming 55th year special gift. More details will be forthcoming in our next column. • We must report the passing of another classmate: **Jack McElwee** died April 7 in Florida. Jack left us early, became a Navy pilot and went to BC Law. After graduation, he joined John Hancock, and became its CEO in 1982 until his retirement in 1986. • Condolences also extended to **Ed McGilvery** on the death of his brother George, a retired Captain of the BFD; also to **Vin Stakutis** on the death of his sister, Sr. Celestine, CJC, former superior general of the Poor Sisters of Jesus Crucified. • Odds and ends from our dues returns: **Herman Vorel**, enjoying life and golf on the Cape, looks forward to BC football under new Coach O'Brien. • Still very active as a professional tennis referee, **Frank Hill** and wife Dot worked the Nuveen Tournament in Naples, FL. Frank participated in the annual St. Patrick's Day parade as a member of the BC Club of Southwest FL—and has the pictures to prove it. • **John Logue** reports seeing numerous BC

## KEEP IN TOUCH

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folk at the Naples Beach Hotel annual Sunset Party. John also wants to let Ernie know he's been playing golf with the former president of the *Boston Globe*. • Dot and **Dan Healy** had an impressive trip to the Holy Land and later, while in CA, contacted Marie and **Byron Bud Brown** in Encino; they're looking forward to our 55th reunion. • Among the '43 widows who were kind enough to pay class dues were Honey Canale, Kay Cassell, Mary Ferriter and Mary Schoenfeld, along with a long-lost CBA man, **Jack Caldwell** from Torrington, CT. • We've heard that **Tanous Thomas** is on the road to recovery after a mild stroke. • Seen at the Alumni Association Second Helping Gala were **Ed Lambert**, Mary and **Joe O'Neil** and Helen and **Bob O'Meara**, perhaps as a result of publicity work done by our own Ernie Santosuosso. • Over Revere way, **Tom Antico** is showing a large smile as a new grandfather. • A late issue of *The Pilot* reports **Rev. Joe Lukas** has retired. Joe was with us for two years before entering the priesthood. • And now the report on our annual golf classic held June 9, so well-mastered by **Jim Harvey**: **Jack Hayes**, nearest the pin on #4; 1st gross, **Joe Finnegan**; 1st net, **Frank Richards**; 2nd gross, tie: **Bill Commane** and **Jim Harvey**; 2nd net, **Leo Reilly**; and 3rd net, **John Bellissimo**; A special prize was awarded to Mildred Sisk, prime player among the women. Special thanks to **John Rafferty** whose donation helped the cause. Among the non-players who enjoyed the day were John Logue in from Michigan, and Ellie and **Bob Casey**, in from MD. We'll look forward to more players at the next '43 classic! • A sad final note: our condolences to Ernie Santosuosso on the death of his mother in June. • We'll have our annual Fall Festival on Sun., Oct. 5; information will be forthcoming in the mail. • A last reminder: '97 class dues are still payable. Please keep in touch!

## 44

James F. McSorley, Jr.  
1204 Washington Street  
N. Abington, MA 02351  
(617) 878-3008

Some pleasant news at the beginning is the announcement that the **McSorley** children, Janet of Hyannis, James III of Mystic, CT and David of Salem, NH, hosted a happy party which began with a Mass

of thanksgiving at St. Bridget's and reception in the parish hall to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary on May 17 with 95 relatives and friends in attendance. This included **Bill Corkery** and **Don White** who were also at our wedding in 1947 at St. Mary's Church in Waltham. • At this writing in early June, **Jim Dowd's** wife Megs was having eye difficulties because of complications following eye surgery. Our best wishes for a complete recovery. • **Gil Bouley** retired from his stock broker position in 1995 and is enjoying retirement. Although he still misses some aspects of work, he has been able to again take up some of his musical interests including the clarinet, as well as golf and gardening. Gil and his wife Betty live in Weymouth. They have five sons, one daughter and five grandchildren. • **Dr. Ed Thomas** and Ginny have returned north to Mashpee after a pleasant winter in Naples, FL. The BC Club that Ed was instrumental in starting in the Naples area four years ago has grown to a mailing list of 350 and meets the first Wed. of every month at the Brassie Lounge at the Naples Beach and Golf Club. A contingent of about 200 from the Club marched in the 1997 St. Patrick's Day parade, and included two trolleys for those Eagles unable to march. Following the parade, a corned beef and cabbage dinner was enjoyed by all. With their son Kevin's marriage last year, all eight of their children—five boys and three girls, are married. They have 17 grandchildren, 10 girls and seven boys. • The sympathy of the class is extended to the family of **Theophile J. Bernhardt** who died at his home in N. Falmouth after a lingering illness. Ted was born in Lowell and was a longtime resident of Wellesley prior to moving to N. Falmouth in 1985. He was a triple Eagle: a graduate of BC High, BC and BC Law in 1949 after service in the Army during World War II. As an undergraduate, Ted was active as hockey manager and editor-in-chief of *The Heights*. After obtaining his law degree, Ted worked in the labor relations division of John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co. for 37 years until his retirement in 1985. Ted and Rita spent winters at Marco Island, FL. He played golf and was a member of the Pocasset Country Club. He leaves his wife Rita; a son, Theophile III of Bedford; a daughter, Rita Patridge of Norfolk; a brother, Carol Bernhardt of West Yarmouth; and four grandchildren.

## 45

Louis V. Sorgi  
5 Augusta Road  
Milton, MA 02186  
(617) 698-0623

I am sorry to report the death of **Joseph V. Waitkunas, MD** and **Henry Lawlor**. Joseph died July 8, 1996 in Clearwater, FL. He is survived by his wife Helene. Henry died in Worcester on March 22. **Vic Palladino** died April 29 in Watertown. Although not a member of our class, he did start with us in Sept. '41. Vic will be remembered for his great performances on the football field. He was the recipient of the first Scanlon award in football and a member of the BC Hall of Fame. Vic is survived by five children and ten grandchildren. • The sympathy of the class is offered to the families of the deceased and to **Vin Catalogna** on the death of his mother on April 9. • **Father Walter Casey**, who started with us in 1941 and retired as a colonel in 1975, is recovering from a very serious automobile accident at St. Patrick's Manor in Framingham. **Msgr. Francis Turke** is recuperating from cancer surgery at St. Agatha Rectory in Milton. Our prayers are in order for Father Casey and Msgr. Turke. • **Jack McCarthy** reports that Marie and **Charlie Early**, Eileen and **Tom Colbert**, and Clare and **Dave Hern** were in attendance at the Fides Dinner on March 8 in McElroy Commons. Jack and Mary Lou were also at Laetare Sunday where John Hume was the speaker. Also enjoying this event were **Kevin Bowers**, Joan and **Ed Kelleher**, Marilyn and **Paul Paget** and Eileen and Tom Colbert. • Congratulations are in order for the sport celebrity of our class, **Ed Burns**. On Sun., May 18, the town of Arlington honored Ed with a dinner marking his retirement from coaching hockey at Arlington High School; over 700 people attended! In his 50 years of coaching, he had a record of 695 victories, one New England, five state and three E. Mass. championships. His teams also won 28 Suburban and Greater Boston league titles. He also coached football for 21 years, winning 110 games—including two State, one E. Mass. and one Suburban title. He was athletic director for eleven years and a math teacher for 28 years. At the Heights, he was backup quarterback on the 1942 Orange Bowl Team and a high flying wingman for hockey coach Snookes Kelley. Space does not allow me to tell you more about

Ed, except that he loves his golf and is a member of the Legends. Ed, the class salutes you and is proud you belong to us. • Congratulations to Audrey and **Bud Keenan** as they celebrate 50 years of marriage. • The Legends started off the 1997 golf year with a match at Hatherly Golf Course, hosted by **Bill Cornyn**. The weather was rather cool and windy, the golf was good and the 19th hole was, as usual, the highlight of the day. • I had the opportunity to visit Louise and **Paul Ryder** on my way down to Naples. They have a very lovely home on Skidaway Island, GA, about 12 miles from Savannah. We had a great time in Naples, where we took part in the St. Patrick's Day parade with the BC Club of Southwest Florida. Connie and Jack Kineavy, Eve and Dave Carey, Bud and Peg Curry, Bud and Audrey Keenan, Barbara Tracy, Elizabeth Finigan, and Charlie and Effie McCready also joined in the festivities. Effie and **Charlie McCready** hosted a cocktail hour for the group at their new home in Bonita Springs; Eve and **Dave Carey** also had the group at their lovely home in Naples. • Don't forget upcoming events, especially Pops at Heights in Sept. and a football game and dinner to be announced.

## 46

Leo F. Roche, Esq.  
26 Sargent Road  
Winchester, MA 01890  
(617) 729-2340

## 47

Richard J. Fitzgerald  
P.O. Box 171  
Falmouth, MA 02556  
(508) 563-6168

What a 50th Reunion it was! • **Jim Ryan** was given a special award for all his organizational and fund raising activities. The long-distance award was up for grabs for a while; **Dr. Tom Carney** arrived from Florida and schemed to have it, when **Ed Naughton**, living in Paris, had to cancel out. But Maryknoll **Father Jim Gorman** topped everyone, coming all the way from Japan. His clergy classmates, who celebrated Mass at St. Mary's Chapel Saturday afternoon, were **Rev. Mark Carr**, **Rev. Bob Boyle**, **Rev. James Knox** and **Rev. Joe Svirskas**. • **George Donelan** and **Lou Sammartino**



have shown an artistic side, not apparent in their football-playing days. George's woodworking skills prompted a request from the librarian for a display case for BC's Irish exhibit. Lou, who has been designing jewelry for years, is also very involved with a lyric opera group in Providence. • **Power Fraser** has managed to live for 40 years in one location, despite three difference affiliations. He is now retired, but still active as a board member of three corporations. • **Bill Earley's** magnificent beard makes him a natural for a career as Santa, come Christmas. • **Dave Farrell** didn't look much different in appearance from his days on "Starring the Editors." • **Pete Oberto** made an appearance from Florida in time for final activities—as irresponsible as ever! • Late word was received that **Dr. Ed Cronin** had recently undergone major surgery, but was doing well. • Space limitations preclude more, but look for additional info. next time.

48

## REUNION

MAY 15-17 • 1998

Rev. John H. Flynn  
212 Ross Drive  
Lynnfield, MA 01940  
(617) 593-8689

Greetings to all classmates as we become Golden Eagles on the occasion of our 50th anniversary of graduation from old BC! Sometimes it seems as though the years have just tumbled by in rapid succession. At other times, because the world and our culture have changed so much since 1948, our days at college seem very long ago and far away. • First of all, our sincere sympathy goes out to the family of **Vic Palladino**, who recently passed away. One of the best-known of our Class of '48, Vic was for many years coach and athletic director at Watertown High School. As an outstanding linesman, Vic was a member of the BC Hall of Fame. • Congratulations to **John M. Corcoran** on his reception of the Bald Eagle Award, indicative of his long-standing devotion and support for his alma mater. • **Jim Costello** informs me that there was a fine representation from the Class at the Laetare Sunday Communion Breakfast. Jim and his wife Jeanne were present along with Bridget and **Jim Calabrese**. Also on hand were Tim Buckley, John Nee and Eileen, Paul Ryan, Paul Morin, Harry Barker and Bob Marshall. • **Paul Morin** tells me that, in making 40 calls to urge attendance at Laetare Sunday,

he contacted **Father Bob Costello** who is busy at St. Nicholas Church in Abington. • **Bob Herlihy** is now retired from the Traveler's Insurance Co. and lives in Arlington. Bob has 12 grandchildren! • We understand that **Mario Gianelli** has some serious health problems. Rest up, Mario, to be with us for the 50th! • The following are our Class officers for the 50th anniversary: president: **William P. Melville**; VP: **James P. Costello**; treasurer: **William P. Noonan**; secretary: **Rev. John H. Flynn**. All our officers are unanimous in their insistence that we publicize our activities for the coming jubilee year to the fullest extent. This quarterly column will, of course, feature all the activities to come. Many events have been suggested by classmates, some of which have been popular amongst previous classes. These include a Night at Pops, weekend retreat at Weston, and the Christmas Concert of the University Chorale. Also on the docket are a varsity hockey game; a tour of the BC Art Museum, a lecture by a member of the faculty of Irish Studies, and an evening production by the players of the BC Theater. A 50th anniversary yearbook has also been suggested. Your officers are anxious to hear your suggestions. We are planning a class luncheon in Oct. to discuss with you next season's anniversary affairs. Remember, the Class of '48 is now the Golden Eagles!

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William H. Flaherty, Jr.  
44 Concord Road  
Billerica, MA 01821  
(508) 670-1449

First of all, **John Prince**, who has served us as secretary-treasurer in a "princely" manner for these many years, is alive and well and relaxing in Brighton with his lovely wife, Mary. At the class meeting held April 23 at Alumni House, John announced his retirement to thunderous applause. John has performed his duties with diligence and class. On behalf of the Class, **Dr. Joe Dowd** presented John with BC blazer buttons. • Also due our deepest gratitude is **Bill McCool** who served us as class president these past several years. Bill kept the class fires burning each year with his strong leadership and tireless energy. The Class is better off because of Bill. Blazer buttons are also on their way to him, as he was unable to attend. • The organizational meeting was called by Joe

Dowd, **John Driscoll** and **Joe Cotter**, all past presidents of the Alumni Association. Following grace, delivered by **Rev. Paul McCarthy, SJ**, a delicious meal was served. Joanne Goggins, Alumni Association assistant director, who will serve as liaison to the class, spoke of our mission as we prepare for 1999. John Wissler, executive director, followed with a spirited message. Both outlined the tremendous task we have before us, but shared confidence in the Class and pointed out our outstanding record of reunions past. • Next order of business was the election of Class officers. Nominated and elected president by acclamation was **John McQuillan** of Needham. We are in good hands. • The position of secretary-treasurer was next on the agenda, and I am sure at this point you have already concluded that I "drew the short straw." Seriously, I consider it truly an honor to serve in this office and will ignore the clamor of the crowd that I be fully bonded. • Other items of note were the selections of **Peter Rogerson** as chairman of the Fall dinner, and **Sahag Dakesian** as editor of the Class anniversary book. **Tom O'Connor** has volunteered to write the class history (how lucky can we get?). Dot Harney will gather the names of widows and Father McCarthy will collect the names of the many clergy in our class. • Help is still needed for the strategic planning, Class book, special events, search and seek, and Class gift committees. President McQuillan will be happy to hear from any volunteers. • Also present at the meeting were: Hank Barry, Charles Brennan, John Cahill, Ernie Ciampa, Bob Curran, Bill Cohan, Dick Devlin, John Doherty, John Forkin, Jim Galvin, Albert Hanwell, John Hickey, Bob Kelleher, Michael Lynch, William Morrissey, Ed Murphy, James O'Neil, Donald St. Andre, John Waite and yours truly. Several others indicated their interest but were unable to attend. • Stay tuned for further developments as we work toward our 50th reunion. Our class is the first of the so-called "large" classes. We have the charge to set the pace for those classes which will follow. I know we are up to it. • We are restricted on the number of words we can use in our column. Therefore, I will fill you in next time on Joe Dowd receiving the William V. McKenney Award, our classmates who carried the torch of '49 with the Institute for Learning in Retirement, and a report from our correspondent in Guam, **Wally Burgess**. • Please mail any news to the above address or fax it to (508)937-5585.

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John A. Dewire  
15 Chester Street, #31  
Cambridge, MA 02140  
(617) 876-1461

I recently received a letter from **Gerry Spurr**. After BC, he went to Yale for a year as a graduate student in physiology. Since there were few graduate fellowships to support a poor boy, he applied to the State University of Iowa where he was accepted for the fall of 1951 as a graduate student and research assistant, with enough income to rent a room and feed himself. In 1952, he married the girl of his dreams, who he met at St. Clement's High School in Somerville. When he graduated from Iowa with a PhD in 1954, Gerry and his wife Beth had one son and a daughter. He stayed at Iowa for another two years as a research fellow for the American Heart Association, and then moved to the Univ. of Tennessee College of Medicine in Memphis in 1956 as instructor in physiology. During the next 10 years, he eventually became full professor and chair of the Division of Clinical Physiology. Gerry and Beth had two more children to round out their family; so they have two "corn-pickers" born in Iowa and two "cotton pickers" born in Tenn., who are grown and gone now with families of their own. In 1961, Gerry did something that changed his career and his life—he accepted a position as visiting professor of physiology at the Universidad Del-Valle in Cali, Columbia and moved there for immersion in another culture. When he returned in 1963, Gerry became co-director of the Rockefeller Foundation, a supported exchange programs in Cali until 1970. In 1968, he moved to the then Marquette Univ. School of Medicine in Milwaukee. Shortly thereafter, the medical school cut its ties to Marquette and became the Medical College of Wisconsin. In 1970 with the termination of the Rockefeller Foundation program, he sought and obtained funds to support research into the physiological changes which occur as the result of chronic malnutrition, of which there was a high incidence in Columbia. The research continues to this day, although Gerry officially retired in 1995. However, he continues as a professor on a part time basis and spends one to two months per year in Columbia. After more than 37 years of going there, he has as many friends there as he has in this country. Gerry and Betty



celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary in 1997. He is enjoying his retirement with time to analyze data for publication. He came back to Boston last year for the 50th reunion of his St. Clement's class. He is looking forward to the 50th reunion of our class in the year 2000. • **Walter Mayo, Jr.** died of cancer Dec. 4 in Falls Church, VA. He was a graduate of the Army War College. He received a master's degree in penology from Shippensburg Univ. While at BC, Walter was in the ROTC program. He was in the infantry in Europe in World War II, and served in Korea as a field artillery forward observer. He was captured by the Chinese and marched north to Pyoktong. He was imprisoned there for three years. He stayed in the Army, became a colonel and later served in Germany and again in Korea. Colonel May was first posed to Washington, DC in 1968 as an aide to the assistant secretary of defense for atomic energy. He retired as deputy to the commanding general of the army test and evaluation command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. • On April 5, the BC Alumni Association presented the 9th annual Second Helping Gala All Star Affair to support the Greater Boston Food Bank. Our Class was one of nine BC classes who were acknowledged in the program as having generously supported that night's event. Class president **Bobby Harwood** and his wife Dotty, and Shirely and **Bill Horrigan** were guests at this function, held at the 600 Club in Fenway Park. Bea and **Joe Casey** also attended. • Our class is planning a reception and dinner on Oct. 18 at Alumni House on Newton Campus, after the BC/Miami game. • I returned May 24 from three wonderful weeks in Ireland.

## 50N

Mary McManus Frechette  
42 Brookdale Ave.  
Newtonville, MA 02160  
(617) 244-8764

## 51

Robert L. Sullivan  
78 Phillips Brook Road  
Westwood, MA 02090  
(617) 326-5980

We may not be Golden Eagles yet, but I should remind you that it's been 50 years since most of us came

to the Heights as freshmen. The Business School guys can probably remember classes at the Liggett Estate—particularly those 4:20 pm history sessions with Father Harney in the swimming pool classroom. • Some more news of our Class: While visiting my daughter in Georgia, I had breakfast with **Bill Heslin**, an old North Cambridge friend and grammar school classmate at St. John's. Bill is retired from a long and successful career with Bank of America and its predecessors in the Atlanta area. • Last year at our 45th reunion, **Rev. Bill O'Connor** celebrated Mass for the class, ably assisted by altar "boy" **Pat Roche**. Bill has been the pastor of St. Jeremiah's in Framingham for the past 12 years and served prior to that in a number of parishes in the greater Boston area. Pat Roche is the CEO of Roche Brothers supermarkets and a great friend of BC. • **Phil Dolan** has retired from executive positions in several of the nation's largest retail organizations to Amelia Island, FL, described by Phil as "a beautiful barrier island." • **Roger Schiffmann** has recently become a "Golden Eagle" (BC High) and is looking forward to the Eaglets' maturity in 2001. He's retiring as CEO of Mats, Inc. in Braintree and turning the business over to his sons so he and his wife can spend their time playing golf at Cape Cod and New Smyrna Beach, FL. • **Bill Renehan** is retired and now living in Jupiter, FL full time. Bill's business in Manchester is also being operated by his sons. • **Dave McNulty** has retired from teaching and is living in Bourne on the Cape. He is active in the K of C and spends a good deal of time seeing to it that exceptional children get wheelchairs, lifts, software for their computers and the like. Good work, Dave! • **David Levy**, MD is practicing in Lynn for Charter Professional, part of Salem Hospital. His son Robert Levy, MD, '89 is following in his dad's footsteps and is presently doing his internship at St. Elizabeth's in Brighton. • **Justice Rudolph Sacco** has retired recently from the Trial Court of Mass. for Hampden, Hampshire and Berkshire Counties. He was appointed in 1973 by then Governor Sargent and has had a long and notable career. • Since the last issue, yours truly has taken on what may be one of the great part time retirement jobs: executive secretary of the New England Senior Golfers' Association, where one of the pleasant tasks is lining up tournament sites. Nothing like a good part-time endeavor to keep a 40-year marriage intact; for

better or worse, but not for lunch! • We regret to have to report that we lost **Rev. Arthur Colbert, SJ** last fall (Oct. 26) and **Rev. Francis P. Sullivan, SJ**, an ex-1951 classmate who passed away in Aug. May they rest in peace. • As I mentioned in the last issue, please get in touch and let me know what you're doing.

## 52

Edward L. Englert, Jr., Esq.  
128 Colberg Ave.  
Roslindale, MA 02131  
(617) 323-1500

The 45th is gone but not forgotten. Many thanks to Kathy and **Roger Connor** for putting together an interesting schedule of events. • **Gene McMorrow** headed up the tailgating at the V.T. game. • The annual memorial Mass was held in Oct., and the women of '52 had a luncheon in Nov. at Alumni House, thanks to the efforts of **Pat Chard O'Neil** and **Pat Foley**. The Christmas Chorale was bogged down due to inclement weather, but those attending had a good time. • In Feb., the class met for dinner and then attended the hockey game. • Laetare Sunday was well attended thanks to **Gene McMorrow** and **Fred Meagher**. • In March, **Al Sexton** and **Joe O'Shaughnessy** ran the '52 annual luncheon at the Key Wester Fish and Pasta House in Naples; the event was the largest so far. Evidently Naples is a popular place for classmates in that area. Jim Callahan, Bud Torpey, Charlie Sherman, George Campbell, Steve Casey, Paul Clinton, Dick Ring, Charlie O'Donnell, Dave Murphy, Jim Mulrooney, Jim Moroney, Tom Cumiskey and Jerry Dacey attended. Also attending were Paul Daly, Bob Doherty, Dick McLaughlin, Frank McDermott, Paul Lockwood, Bill Doherty, Barry Driscoll, Jack Donovan, Lois Doyle, Jim Kenneally and Jim Leonard. • The BC Club of Southwest Florida had two trolleys in the local St. Patrick's Day parade. **Jim Mulrooney**, still being fleet of foot, was able to get a seat while **Jack Donovan**, **Steve Casey** and **Dick Bangs** represented '52 in the line of march. • Reunion Weekend started with an evening at Pops. The parade of classes was held the next morning, followed by a barbecue. Mass was celebrated by Fathers Hugh O'Regan, Paul Curran, Peter Martocchio and Patrick Ryan. John Kellaher, Fred Meagher, Gene

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently moved, changed jobs or gotten married? Call us to update your record so we can keep you up-to-date on friends, classmates and BC happenings. You can call (617) 552-3440 to change your record by phone, fax (617) 552-0077, e-mail [infoserv@bc.edu](mailto:infoserv@bc.edu), or drop a postcard to Boston College Information Services, More Hall 220, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.

McMorrow and Frank McDermott assisted. Before dinner, a cocktail reception was held. Attending some or all of anniversary functions were Bob Allen, Lex Blood, Barbara Brady, Jim Callahan and Frank Carroll from Flat Rock, NC. Al Cassassa came from NH, joining Steve Casey, Roger Connor, Tom Cullinan, Charlie Daly, Bruce Desrosiers, Frank Dooley and Lois Doyle. George Cyr came up from Maryland, and J. Barry Driscoll, Bernie Dwyer, Joe Fagan, George Gallant and Father Tom Murray were with us. Enjoyed being with Bob Freeley, Jack Monahan and Jim Mulrooney. Bob Ferroli came on from Elkhart, IN. Bill Gauthier made the trip from the Springfield area, and Ed Gordon, Charlie Haney and Tom Hannon were there. • Had an interesting conversation with **Bill Glebus** who travelled up from Norcross, GA. Baron Hugo-Totem Pole music was provided, and enjoying the dancing were Charlie Sherman, John O'Connor, Alex Morgan, Tom Megan, Tom McElroy, Dick McLaughlin, Frank McDermott, Jim Kenneally and Bert Kelley. Jay Hughes came up from the Cape. From out of state were John Healy, Springfield, VA; Frank Hogan, Yardley, PA; and Charlie Kohaut, Fort Wayne, IN; along with old faithfuls John Kellaher, John Irwin, John Loughman, Marie Martin, Dave Murphy and Bill Newell. Others from out of state were Jack Leary, NH, Walter McDonough, PA and Tom McGowan, all the way from Tustin, CA, Jim Nichols, MN, and Tom O'Maley from Carmichael, CA. Also, Bill Walsh, Wheaton, IL, Mike Roarke, Cranston, RI, Tim Ring, Manchester, Al Perrault, New Britain, CT, Joe O'Shaughnessy,



Hampton, NH. Completing the group were Frank Vaughan, Bob Shannon, Dan Shanahan, Al Reilly, Art Powell, Paul Nolan and Bernie O'Sullivan. • Congratulations to **J. Barry Driscoll** for his tremendously successful fund drive, raising over \$1 million for the class gift. Barry was assisted by Steve Casey, Roger Connor, Dick Driscoll, Jay Hughes, Bert Kelley, Mike McCarthy, Frank McDermott, Dick McLaughlin, Gene McMorrow, Tom Megan and Bob Quinn. • Sorry to report the deaths of **Algridas P. Mitkus**, **Fred McCabe** and **Bob Ahearn**. Fred lived in Canton and died in March. Fred leaves his wife, Mary '52, and six daughters. Bob was originally from West Roxbury and lived in Milton. Please remember them in your prayers, as well as classmates who are ill. • **Bernie Decker**, Green Valley, AZ, has been retrieved from obscurity and taught journalism for 24 years at Eastern Michigan Univ. He retired in '95 and lives in Arizona with his wife Adrienne; they have four children and four grandchildren. • **Dick McLaughlin** scored a hole in one while golfing at The Moorings—no other details available. • **Ed Gaudette's** daughter, Sarah Catherine, graduated BCA&S '97. • **Joe Chisholm** has retired from Wall Street and now has a money management business in Long Island. Joe has three grandchildren. • **Bill Heavey** called me last week to chit chat. • I have a feeling that I omitted some names, and would appreciate hearing from you so that I can update the next column. Please send news.

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## REUNION

MAY 15-17 • 1998

Robert W. Kelly  
98 Standish Road  
Watertown, MA 02172  
(617) 926-0121

Welcome to your 45th class reunion, and congratulations! The next big step is the 50th, but don't wait: every year there are too many changes in the lives of people we know. By the time you read these notes, Gerry and **John McCauley** will have hosted our first successful event, a victory, we hope, over Georgia Tech. The next event we are planning is the Christmas Chorale. Watch for mailings, call Alumni House or any committee person you can think of for more details. We are all looking forward to Reunion Weekend, May 15-17, 1998. • **Jim Willwerth**, who chaired the last two anniversaries, is

planning the 45th to incorporate the events we all enjoyed so much. Other events will be planned in between. • Congratulations to **Jean and Leo Grace** on the graduation of their daughter, Mary '97, and also to **Barbara and Fred Good** on the graduation of their son, Fred, Jr. '97—families with a BC tradition! • **John McPhail** spoke up for his beliefs in a letter to the editor of the *Boston Globe*, disputing comments by Mike Barnicle. • Mary and **Joe Tower** were pleased to hear that their twin sons were accepted to the Class of 2002! • We also understand that **Joyce Welch** will be a docent at BC's McMullin Museum of Art. We note a growing interest in cultural events. • Our golf crew of 36 hearty souls teed off at Wayland Country Club under cool temperatures for June, but sunny skies. A good time was had by all. Prize for closest to the pin went to **Bob Parks** and **Walter Corcoran**; closest to the line was won by **Gerry McLaughlin** (chairman of the BC High 50th class reunion); and the longest drive by **Dr. Bill Ostaski**. The lowest net score (no prizes amid tearful outcries) was turned in by the team of Horan, Shaughnessy, Fr. Paul Ryan and McLaughlin. They had the honor of drawing the winner of a BC blanket—**Jack Lynch**. Other prize winners were Jim Wholly, Bob Sullivan, Spike Boyle, Paul Murray, Paul Ochs and Jim Low. • The Class had a strong presence at the BC Club of Cape Cod golf outing at King's Way. Participants in the great outdoor event were Dick Farley, Joe Hosford (the winner), Henry O'Brien, Frank Sollitto, "Eagle" Pyne, Paul Coughlin, Don Burgess and the chairman, Tom Rattigan. • Retirement is great—breathing in all this fresh air. It's a wonder we survived 44 years of work!

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David F. Pierre  
PO Box 72  
Prides Crossing, MA 01965  
(508) 927-1149

Congratulations are in order for two members of our class. **John McNeice** received an honorary degree from BC May 19. He served as CEO of the Colonial Fund, one of the country's most successful mutual fund management firms. In addition to that, John has served as a volunteer for a long list of University initiatives and is also active in many educational and charitable ac-

tivities in Greater Boston. Our class has every reason to be proud of his accomplishments. • Another classmate, **Marvin LaHood**, who has a PhD in education, received the Alumni Association's Award of Excellence in Education on May 9. This is a very special BC award. • On a sad note, Prof. Vince Harrington passed away in March. After coming home from World War II and receiving a degree from Harvard, Prof. Vince came to BC in the late '40s to teach accounting, in what was then known as the Business School. He was an excellent teacher who not only taught the fundamentals in accounting, but encouraged us to take the necessary risks in life. He also urged us to start our own businesses. Vince had a great sense of humor and was a regular at BC sporting events, always dressed in colorful attire. He should be remembered as one of the major reasons that so many BC students went on to great success in their various endeavors. • The Class of '54 was well represented at the Laetare Sunday Mass in March to hear John Hume discuss the problems in Northern Ireland and his hopes for the future. Among those present were **James Flynn**, who is teaching history at Holy Cross and will chair that department in Sept. • **Francis Patchell** was also present with his wife, Joan. He recently served as event director, and was a participant, in the Mass. Senior Winter Games. Several former BC players participated, including **Ron Bielicki**. Francis was also a member of the Mass. Basketball Team that won a gold medal in the Mass. and Maine Senior Games. He was a representative in the National Senior Games that were held in Tucson in May. • The spring mini-reunion which was held in Yarmouth on the Cape in May was well attended. Among those present were Mary and **Murray Regan**. Murray fulfilled his lifelong ambition of designing his own house in his hometown of Milton. • The class officers are requesting input on locations for future reunions. Don't miss out on BC football this fall; it's going to be an exciting season.

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Marie J. Kelleher  
12 Tappan Street  
Melrose, MA 02176  
(617) 665-2669

Stop the presses! Dick Renehan is going into the tank!! Come to think

### KEEP IN TOUCH

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of it, an unverifiable fact is that he may have already done so. The tank in question is the shark tank at the N.E. Aquarium. Dick got the opportunity to swim with the sharks by making the winning bid at the auction held at the gala for Second Helping on April 5. Somehow I think his swim could have been cause for a mini class event. • We could have also celebrated Dr. Bob Cefalo's award winning accomplishments. Bob received the Alumni Award of Excellence in Health Professions at the recent award ceremony. Our heartiest congratulations, Bob. • To my sister grads from the School of Nursing who did not attend the 50th anniversary celebration, we missed you, and you missed a great time. If laughter is the best medicine, most of us should be healthy for a long time. My thanks to Chris Eiseman and the staffs of BC's dining and catering services for providing the delicious spoonfuls of sugar to help the medicine go down. Joining me were Joan Sexton Callahan, Barbara Brooks Flory, Jean O'Neil, Barbara Kraus May, Marie Considine Heffernan, Gail McGuire, Dorothy Ching Hughes, Ruth Henning Sweeney, Joan Gospodarek Lett, Barbara Winckelhofer Wright, Patricia Lavoie Grugnale, Mary Rose McCarthy Griffin and Peggy Frances Calloe. I hope to be in touch with many of you over the summer so that I can get news for my next deadline of Sept. 2. • One of the traditions we remembered so well was capping. As our lamps were lit, we were told we were being given the light to carry on the traditions of our school. The candle, the lamp and the light it brings has such a heritage both in the nursing profession and in church



teaching. In our profession, we had such people as St. Catherine of Sienna and Florence Nightingale going forth with their lamps to minister and care for others. • In the gospel we are told to always have our lamps ready for we never know the time when our hour has come. My tears falling as I type this. They are tears of sadness, and yet should be tears of joy for her as I share the news that Marie Considine Heffernan had her lamp ready for the final time. Marie, whose life brought joy, faith, healing and gentle caring to her family, friends and all who knew her, used her lamp to light her way home to God when He called on May 30. May our prayers and the remembrances of how she lit up the lives of so many, bring comfort to her husband Tim and all of her family.

## 55N

Jane Quigley Hone  
425 Nassau Ave.  
Manhasset, NY 11030  
(516) 627-0973

## 56

Steve Barry  
11 Albamont Road  
Winchester, MA 01890  
(617) 729-6389

About 40 class members filled four tables at the Laetare Sunday Communion Breakfast. **Peg Dwyer**, a VP of the college, graced the head table. • **Mary Ann Tierney Woodward** informed us that we didn't mention that she and **Marge Callahan** played in the Reunion golf tournament. (*Mea culpa*—They didn't take prizes, and I didn't check all the names. Next time...) Mary Ann's husband missed the breakfast—with free skiing at 70, he entered a race in his age class, fell, and broke his hip. (So much for that fantasy!) • Also with us were Pat and **Frank Furey** (Winchester neighbors) and Carol and **Charles Sanphy**. Pat and my wife, Marie, talked about Emmanuel College, where both had studied with some of the same instructors. • Others attending were **Alice Shea**, and Dan and **Carolyn Kenny Foley**. • We saw **Joe Hines** as we were leaving. • As mentioned previously, the class committee donated \$500 to the Second Helping program to benefit local shelters and soup kitchens, and received four tickets which were won

at the breakfast by Mary Ann Woodward, **Betty Bulman Craven**, **Carol Hines Gleason** and **Katie Earls**. Katie also won a book written by the featured speaker, the Hon. John Hume, a member of the Irish Parliament and a tireless worker for peace.

• **Ernestine Bolduc** sent a report on the School of Nursing 50th anniversary in April. **Louise A. McCall Crawford** listed the 15 members who attended and included an update on them. I'll expand on this next time. • We have a special class project with **Angela Hennessey Heffernan**, who teaches in a Boston public school. She seeks volunteers to read to the children and tutor them. • **John Cogliano, Jr.**, chairman and CEO of Sullivan & Cogliano, Inc., received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the New England Association of Personnel Services. John was selected unanimously by the presidents of the state associations. A delegate to the White House Conference on Small Business in '94-'95, he has served on a number of commissions in Mass. and as a member of national boards and associations. • **Mert Thompson** told me recently that he was about to start a consulting project involving banking and securities. I see Mert and his wife, **Denise Igo McCabe Thompson**, around Winchester • **Ralph Catignani** and Jean moved to Conway, NH recently. Ralph retired in 1996 from the Boston agency of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co. after 26 years. • I mentioned earlier that **Rev. Tom Naughton** is pastor of the 40-year-old Immaculate Conception Parish in Winchester and promised more information. Father Tom established a restoration committee, revitalized the parish advisory council and the finance committee, and launched a fund-raising drive to repair the sagging roofs of the church, school and convent, and replace the steps, renovate the stained-glass windows and the interior of the church. Three commemoration boards testify to the support, including money and "sweat equity" he has received from parishioners. • **Leo Power**, director of BC's Institute for Scientific Research, has a \$99,308 grant for "*FAA Ionospheric Work Plan for Fiscal Year '97*." • Three classmates have left us recently. **Bob Cochran** of Pearl, MS died last Sept. Bob, who owned an insurance agency in New Orleans before retiring, leaves his wife, Linda, a daughter, five sons, five grandchildren and a brother. • **Bob Howatt** of Hamilton passed away in Oct. Besides his wife, Elise, he leaves three children and three grandchildren. •

**Leonard E. Andrusaitis** of Tyngsboro, a professor at Univ. of Massachusetts in Lowell, also died in Oct. He leaves his wife, Joan, a son and a daughter. Please remember them in your prayers as well as our classmates who may be ill. • Don't forget our dinner buffet to be held after the BC-Miami football game, Sat., Oct. 18. • Please keep the letters and calls coming; it's a pleasure to pass the news along. Incidentally, if you have access to the Internet, you can send e-mail to the Alumni Association at the address <www.bc.edu/alumni> and they will forward it to me.

## 56N

Patricia Leary Dowling  
39 Woodside Drive  
Milton, MA 02186

## 57

Francis E. Lynch  
27 Arbutus Lane, P.O. Box 1287  
W. Dennis, MA 02670  
(508) 398-5368

Family Day at Fenway Park on April 27 was a great event; over 350 people attended. The day led off with Mass celebrated by Rev. **Gerald E. Kelly, MM**. Following Mass, the line-up included a variety of games for both kids and adults, a tour of the ballpark, Red Sox locker room and many other events. Memento Red Sox caps were handed out to each child. Co-chairs for this event were **Thomas P. McDonald** and **G. Paul McNulty** with help from committee members Edward D. Brickley, William J. Cunningham, Rev. Joseph R. Fahey, SJ, John L. Harrington, Rev. Gerald E. Kelly, MM, Margaret J. Kenney, Leo J. Morrissey and Anna M.D. Stewart. • The Class 40th Reunion in May was a most memorable one from start to finish. **Bill Cunningham** did a super job chairing the golf outing May 13 at Charles River Country Club. Bill's committee included **Larry Chisholm**, **Charles J. Fox** and **Frank Higgins**. Due to clubhouse renovations, the golf dinner was held at Woodland Golf Club in Newton. Attending were Edward D. Brickley, Joseph Burke, Lawrence P. Chisholm, Edward F. Coakley, Richard Coleman, William J. Cunningham, James D. Devlin, Rev. Joseph R. Fahey, SJ, Neil A. Fitzgerald, Charles J. Fox, George S. Hennessy, M. Frank

Higgins, Vincent Lamparelli, James McGuire, Paul McAdams, David McAvoy, Joseph P. McMenimen and Barry Murphy. • Reunion Weekend events included a memorial Mass concelebrated by the Revs. Thomas Ahearn, MM, Joseph R. Fahey, SJ, Gerald E. Kelly, MM, John McLaughlin, Edward M. McMahon and Eugene P. Sullivan. Fr. Tom Ahearn delivered a very touching homily. **Jim Devlin** did a great job putting together the Mass. • Following Mass, a reception was held at Conte Forum, with a sit-down dinner in the Shea room. On hand for this wonderful celebration were: Barry B. Adams, Rev. Thomas Ahearn, MM, Joseph W. Berkley, Edward D. Brickley, Robert Burns, Norma Cacciamani, James E. Cantwell, Lawrence P. Chisholm, Edward P. Cicconi, Richard B. Circco, Edward F. Coakley, John M. Collins, Donald J. Connors, Katherine Cotter, William J. Cunningham, James F. Daly, Jr., James D. Devlin, Francis J. Dirksmeier, Richard F. Dowling, Dominic Emello, Neil A. Fitzgerald, Rev. Joseph R. Fahey, SJ, Arthur P. Flynn, William J. Gately, John L. Harrington, Thomas Harrington, Donald M. Haskell, John F. Healy, Donald R. Henderson, George S. Hennessy, M. Frank Higgins, Robert L. Hillyard, Mary Lou Hogan, Robert J. Huber, Catherine M. Hynes, William C. Jones Jr., Mary Kadra, John Kazmierczak, Rev. Gerald E. Kelly, MM, Rosalie A. Kenney, Donald F. Kenney, Margaret J. Kenney, Vincent N. Lamparelli, Roger P. L'Heureux, Francis E. Lynch, Gilbert E. McKinnon, Theodore F. Maggelet, James G. Maguire, Robert L. Matthews, David J. McAvoy, Myles J. McCabe, Ellen T. McCarthy, Joseph D. McCloskey, Hon. Sheila E. McGovern, James P. McIntyre, Rev. John M. McLaughlin, Rev. Edward M. McMahon, Francis M. McManus, G. Paul McNulty, William E. McQueeney, Richard N. Michaud, Edward D. Miller, Leo J. Morrissey, Joseph L. Moylan, Barry W. Murphy, Edward F. Murphy, John E. Murphy, Paul J. O'Leary, Richard J. O'Brien, Jr., Frances F. Plude, David L. Rico, James R. Roach, Jr., Kenneth R. Ross, John A. Ruggiero, Anna M.D. Stewart, Rev. Eugene P. Sullivan, Robert E. Tiernan, William Tobin, Elizabeth A. Turley, James D. Turley, John F. Wissler, Louann MacNeil Woronicz, Anthony Zonfrelli and others that I might have missed. • In summary, our 40th reunion was a very special one. It was great to see



so many new faces. You could feel the great bonding taking place among a Class that has a very special chemistry. A very big thank you is extended to **James D. Turley**, our 40th Reunion chair, and both **Norma Cacciamani** and **Frank Lynch**, co-chairs of Reunion Day, and their committee, for a job well done. A great debt of thanks is also extended to **Edward F. Coakley**, chair of our Class fund raising effort, together with committee members **James Doyle**, **John Kelliher** and **Gerry Palmer**. They well exceeded the Class fund raising goal in all respects. I should also note that **John F. Wissler** was also very active in this worthy cause. • **William J. Cunningham** and his wife Joan completed a European trip in May. Bill's itinerary included stops in Athens, Istanbul and a week in Ireland. • **James D. Devlin's** daughter Mary Ellen was married June 28 at a very colorful wedding in Boston. • Pat and Frank Lynch are grandparents for the first time; daughter Carolyn '88 gave birth to a boy, John H. Egan, Jr., on May 10 in Moretown, VT. • **Gilbert E. MacKinnon** recently married Joanne White of Hyde Park. They live in Orleans on the Cape and have nine grandchildren. • **Henry J. Smith** is secretary of the BC Hall of Fame. Henry relates that he has his good and bad days. He is now legally blind and is experiencing other health difficulties. Henry would like to hear from some of his old BC and Brighton buddies. Give him a call at home, (617) 444-0008. • **Frances Ford Plude** recently earned a doctorate at Harvard in telecommunications. She is a visiting professor at Emerson College, Syracuse Univ., John Carroll Univ. and is also associate professor at Notre Dame College in Cleveland. Frances is a Web and Internet specialist. She works with many Catholic bishops and church leaders on how to "be" church in an Internet culture. She also works with theologians in developing the new field of communication theology. She has authored several books and published numerous articles. • **Louann Macneil Woronicz** and husband Stephen '55 recently moved to N. Falmouth. • **Edward D. Brickley** is the new public address announcer for the Red Sox at Fenway Park. He brings to his new job a wealth of baseball knowledge and stat. information that has been part of his personal repertoire for years. Ed also handled the football statistics at BC for many years. Congratulations, Ed, I know you will have a lot of fun. • Class condolences are

extended to the families of **Francis E. Rice, DDS** who passed away April 16, and **Helen Gallagher Whitman** who passed away in Nov. '95. Special sympathy is also extended to **Charlie Fox's** wife, Janice Judge Fox '58, on the death of her mother. • Please mark your calendars for the next Class function, an event around the BC-Miami game on Sat., Oct. 18. You'll receive a mailing outlining the day's schedule. Briefly, a Mass will be celebrated following the game together with a dinner at Gasson Hall. • Class dues for the '97-'98 academic year are now due. Please remit your \$25 directly to **Bill Tobin**, 181 Central St., Holliston, MA 01746.

## 57N

Marjorie L. McLaughlin  
139 Parker Road  
Needham, MA 02194  
(617) 444-7252

## 58

**REUNION**  
MAY 15-17 • 1998

David A. Rafferty, Jr.  
33 Huntley Road  
Hingham, MA 02043  
(617) 749-3590

**Arthur Ahearn**, a garment manufacturer, is owner of Ahern Enterprises and lives in Dana Point, CA. • **Dick Arnold** is sales manager for Wesskum Leather Corp. in Gloversville, NY. • **John Donahue**, after retiring from the US government, is now treasurer of Theology College at Catholic Univ. in Washington, DC. • **John Donlan**, living in Newton, is VP for sales and marketing at Medical AIRA Technology in Canton. • **Paul Laraia, MD**, living in Wellesley, is chief of cardiology at Mass. Rehab Center in Boston. • **Mike Lavey** is sales manager for Stocker and Yale, Inc. in Beverly. • **Lionel Leclerc**, living in Beverly, continues teaching in Marblehead. • **Leo McCarthy** is admissions assistant at Marist College in Goshen, NY. • **Jim McCarthy**, living in E. Weymouth, is manager of EDS systems for Gillette. Jim, how come I never hear from you, living in the next town?? • **Gilbert Paraschos** has retired as agent in charge of the US secret service in Syracuse. • **Dick Parker**, living in Concord, NH, is executive VP for Raytheon in Lexington. • **Mike Ronayne**, living in Winchester, is dean of A&S at Suffolk Univ. • **Dick Shea** is still active

as president of T.H. Glennon Co. in Salisbury, and manages to sneak away from the office to play golf at Oyster Harbors on the Cape and Naples, FL. • **George Bo Strom** is owner of Fleet Mgmt. Assoc. in Shrewsbury while his other half, Bernardine, continues teaching to build up their retirement nest egg. • **Tony Spuria** is CEO of AJS Assoc. in Ponte Vedra, FL. • **Carl Pitaro** is mayor of Brockton. • **Larry Plenty**, former '58 footballer, is assistant chief probation officer of Boston Juvenile Court. • **Bill Sweeney** is executive VP of Hosp. Assoc. of RI and lives in Barrington. • **Bob Taggart** is owner/president of Taggart Associates in Lexington. • **Dick Testori** is senior claims rep. for Charter Ins. Co. in Dallas. • **Bill Ventola** is director of underwriting for Berkshire Life Ins. Co. in Pittsfield. • **Walter Vaughan** lives in Franklin and has retired from the Natick public schools. • **Peter Victory**, living in Salem, has retired from Gillette. • **Bill O'Rourke**, living in Hingham, has also recently retired from Gillette. Bill and his wife June spend their winters in sunny Naples, FL. They recently returned from a two-week sojourn to Hawaii. • **Martin Reidy** is a professor at Concordia Univ. in Montreal. • **Paul Roach** is district manager at System Sensor in Hanover. • **Ray Peacock** is senior staff engineer at LTV Steel Co. in Independence, OH. • **George Olesen** is president of Obis Co. Inc. in Manchester, NH. • **Ed Murphy, MD** is living in Newton and is an ophthalmologist at Mass Eye and Ear Infirmary. • **Bill Monahan**, living in Baldwin NY, is president of Eastern Securities of Westport, CT. • **Joe Morcone** is a teacher with the Worcester School Department. • **Charlie McGowan** is program manager for IBM in Milford, CT—one of the few '58 IBMers not retired. • **Dan Mazzola**, living in Scottsdale AZ, is senior engineer with Automatic Electric Co. • **Dick McCardle**, retired in Naples FL, is a former partner with Arthur Andersen. Dick, did you march with the BC Club at the Naples St. Patrick's Day parade? • **Ed Lynch**, living in Hingham, is curriculum coordinator at Hull High School. • **Jim Lynch** is the Canton assistant superintendent of schools. • **Neil Mahoney** is VP of marketing for Geltech, Inc. in Charleston, SC. • **Paul Kellen** is president of Advanced Bio Management in Medford. • **Ellen Kennedy** is director of the school of nursing at Malden Hospital. • **Marilyn Mueller** is a school psychologist in Rochester, NY. • **Rita Moore Joyce** is a special edu-

cation teacher for the Buffalo, NY school system. Husband Ken is an attorney with the Law Revision Commission. • **Mary Maher Kehoe** is assistant professor at Community College of RI in Newport. • **George Harrington** is president/owner of Salem Restaurant Corp. • **Larry Gillooly** is a professor at Merrimack College. • **Bill Griffin** is CFO of Marwais Steel Co. in San Francisco. • The class committee is finalizing plans for the "big" 40th reunion. This is what it looks like: 1) a moonlight dance cruise from Marina Bay in Quincy on Fri., Sept. 5, 7-10 pm. Excellent restaurants and plenty of parking. 2) Reception on the Bapst Lawn (hopefully) after the BC-GA Tech game on Oct. 4. We've reserved a small # of game tix. Call **Jack Mucca McDevitt** ASAP for these two events at 617-395-0908. 3) Christmas Chorale-Newton Chapel-dinner at Alumni House to follow - Sun., Dec. 7 at 3 pm. 4) BC/Big East basketball game at Conte Forum in Jan. Reception in our president's box before or after, depending upon game time. 5) Laetare Sunday - March 22. 6) Alumni Weekend May 15-17; Friday: Pops concert; Saturday: parade, tours, barbecue lunch and dinner party. Make your plans now and reserve those dates. Don't forget to send your class dues (\$25) to Mucca McDevitt, 28 Cedar St., Medford, MA 02155. • I desperately need news; please write or call.

## 58N

**REUNION**  
MAY 15-17 • 1998

Sheila Hurley Canty  
P.O. Box 386  
North Falmouth, MA 02556-0386

## 59

Robert P. Latkany  
5 Harding Drive  
Rye, NY 10580  
(914) 835-4285

Received a nice note from old friend, **Alan Miller**. Alan was well known as a Hall of Fame back on our football team, and he also excelled in the pros. He graduated from BU Law in '65, where he was editor of the Law Review. He played with the Philadelphia Eagles, New England Pats and the Oakland Raiders, where he was a member of the '61 All Star Team, and captain and MVP of the '65 team. Al served as general counsel for the NFL Players Association.



As some may remember, Al was known for going just a touch over the speed limit while driving his Chrysler 300 B (and C) around the streets of Boston. Well, Al has garnered several trophies for his race winning efforts as a race car driver, so his Boston training was not for naught. Alan's law firm has been located in Birmingham, AL for over 18 years. He has seven top attorneys who represent many top companies. The firm has developed expertise in business and legal aspects of Indy Car, Trans AM and Winston Cup racing, and represent a number of well-known teams and drivers. Great to hear from you, Alan. • Condolences to the family of **Joseph S. Tebeau**. He died of cancer April 24 in North Reading. • I am sad to report that teammate **Jack Schoppmeyer** of FL has a rare form of blood cancer. He was undergoing treatment at Sloan Kettering Hospital in NYC and is hopefully responding well. Please keep Schopp in your prayers. • An event which you attend is much easier to describe than one which is explained to you by word or to a lesser extent by letter. Trying to be objective, I would have written this for any classmate that gets me this kind of information, because I believe it to be very newsworthy. In my case, Regina and I have been blessed with five very upbeat children. In no way is that to say that each and every one of my classmates does not have a great story about their family—graduations, marriages, grandchildren, and accomplishments. There are only three possible ways in which I can get news: 1) a letter from you (unless you pick up the phone), 2) another classmate or schoolmate sends me info, and 3) Alumni Association sends me news articles or press releases. After that lead in, I will try to describe a personal event which was one of the most stimulating this writer has ever attended. On Sun., May 18, my youngest son, Robert, graduated from BU School of Medicine. In the morning, the entire university commencement was held at Nickerson Field. The School of Medicine then went on to the Westin for their luncheon at 1 pm. Then at 3 pm the graduation class of 157 doctors were presented, along with Christopher Reeve, who received an honorary degree and gave a very moving speech. When Rob was presented with his medical degree, he was hooded by his older brother, Dr. Paul Latkany, resplendent in his NYU School of Medicine regalia. I remember just a short six years ago when Paul graduated from NYU

School of Medicine and how moving a ceremony it was at that time. But when one brother hoods his younger brother, you can not help but get a lump in your throat. It's an experience this parent will never forget and will treasure for the rest of my life. Rob will be doing his residency for one year at Beekman Downtown Hospital in NYC before he starts his three-year ophthalmology residency at New York Eye and Ear on July 1, 1998.

## 59N

Maryjane Mulvanity Casey  
28 Briarwood Drive  
Taunton, MA 02780  
(508) 823-1188

## 60

Joseph R. Carty  
920 Main Street  
Norwell, MA 02061

This is the first time in 37 years that our class hasn't had any information to print! We need your news to make this column viable. Please let me know what you're up to—where you spent summer vacation, what the kids are doing, etc. I look forward to getting updates from you.

## 60N

Patricia McCarthy Dorsey  
53 Clarke Road  
Needham, MA 02192  
(617) 235-3752

The beautiful Mass in the chapel at Newton Country Day School set the tone for Sister Gabrielle Husson and Sister Mary Quinlan's retirement celebration on May 3. It was wonderful to wish them well as they greeted us at the chapel door. It felt like "coming home" to many of us, reminiscing about old times and appreciating the opportunity to have known these two women. Father Lucy spoke eloquently of the achievements of these dedicated, intelligent women. He compared them to Phillipine Dushesne and Madeleine Sophie Barat, the founders of the Order, with its mission to educate women. The chapel was filled with those who returned to pay tribute. All enjoyed a buffet and a reunion with the guests of honor, old friends and classmates. Those present from the Class were:

Jeanne Hanrihan Connelly, Sheila Marshall Gill, Sally O'Connell Healy, Berenice Hackett Davis, Carole Ward McNamara, Loretta Maguire and myself. Speaking for the Class, we are grateful to Sister Husson and Sister Quinlan for their part in our Christian development and education at Newton College of the Sacred Heart. Your lives are a true example of what women can accomplish: the pursuit of intellectual and spiritual growth, along with the capacity to nurture and develop others. Thank you, and know that we all hold you in a special place in our hearts.

## 61

John H. Rossetti  
9 Raleigh Road  
Dover, MA 02030  
(508) 785-2496

Rev. William McInnis, SJ, once a SOM faculty member and later president of Fairfield Univ., has returned to his BC roots as associate alumni chaplain, and celebrated Mass for our deceased Classmates at our annual Class dinner April 14. **Paul Brennan**, droll-witted raconteur, hosted the evening with able bodied assistance by **Phil Donahue**, who presented **Dick Glasheen** a BC rocking chair for 15 years of making the best Class activities. Dick's height and the chair's low seat didn't seem an obstacle to Dick, who was obviously delighted. A well-deserved award. Paul looked nine pounds less thanks to his co-employees' gift of a very yellow Spandex swimming trunks and his current membership in Weight Watchers. The trunks may be overstating his results, but wife Alice remains on a 4 p.m. vending machine watch anyway. Keep at it, Paul. From Shrewsbury, Paul reports that he's able to enjoy that son John, a BC freshman, has all the heavy classwork that Paul does not have to do. In fact, Paul may even be finishing up 30 years of work at Revere Life Insurance. This could explain why alumni recently receiving their Alumni Association Board voting form were treated to a picture of Paul and his stated reasons for election as a 10-year-plus candidate. • Mary and I shared a table with Nancy and **Jack Joyce**, Wellesley residents, Pat and **Bob Hannon**, Sandwich residents, and the Brennans. Smiling eyes all; shy tongues none. • The Hannon's recently visited **Tom Dahoney** at his Arizona digs. With Southwest mountain scenery for

backdrop, Tom willingly posed for a picture in his BC sweat suit. Rumor at the table had it that adobe architecture and pollen-free air do not compensate for that scorching summer sun, and that summers on the Cape are looking better all the time. • Nancy Joyce is an ardent member of BC's art museum. As a good advocate, she points out its contribution to the University status and prestige. To anyone who has taken opportunity to visit the Museum, it has presented some excellent shows. • **Jack Walden** made it and looks great. Maybe that's because he is thinking of retirement from 35 years teaching at Dorchester High, and is looking at new interests after that happens. • **Tom Concannon** is thinking in different terms. The elections for Newton mayor will be held this Nov. In declaring for re-election, it should not be overlooked that most of BC is on Newton ground. Good luck, Tom. • **Mary Turbini** can be found working at Hammond Residential Real Estate. This Newton resident's vacation plans include a Hawaii trip in July with her sisters, Laura and Anne. Mary recently visited **Fr. Mike Duffy** in Philadelphia at a very special project. Fr. Mike and his Franciscan peers have spent their adult careers feeding the poorest in the tough area of South Philly; his St. Francis Inn needs some true assistance. The demand is greater than their supplies. The Class is thinking how to be of assistance. Meanwhile, Mary shares that Fr. Mike's address is: Rev. Michael Duffy, OFM, St. Frances Inn, 2441 Kensington Avenue, PO Box 3746, Philadelphia, PA, 19125. • Other smiles circulating in the crowd belonged to **Cliff Hoey**, **Bob Kelly**

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently moved, changed jobs or gotten married? Call us to update your record so we can keep you up-to-date on friends, classmates and BC happenings. You can call (617) 552-3440 to change your record by phone, fax (617) 552-0077, e-mail [infoserv@bc.edu](mailto:infoserv@bc.edu), or drop a postcard to Boston College Information Services, More Hall 220, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.



and Bob Sullivan. • Further news notes picked up by this attending member with big ears and a long pencil include: **Roddy Cannon** of Milton, after NYNEX retirement, took a sales position with DSC Communications, selling fiber optic transmission equipment. Roddy's four children are through college and in the workforce. Son John is a BC grad. • Medford's **John Lonergan** proudly boasts of the first grandchild, named Connor Lonergan, who is said to have his grandmother's personality. • The Grey Nuns' Charities & Youville Place, Inc. elected **Nancy Drago** of Canton assistant treasurer. • Annie and **Jack Sutton**, residents of Falmouth, ME, traveled to Alexandria, Egypt to visit their daughter. More family celebration was recently occasioned by birth of twin grandchildren by another daughter living in Washington state. Separation can sometimes be very expensive. • Paula and **Ray Clinton** in Andover have organized the non-profit Total Quality Managed Education of Mass., Inc. This is a new resource for private and public educational systems to provide better management. While Paula is president and operations director, Ray is treasurer and director of research. • Newton's **Jack Lane** and wife Pat have been hitting the Florida golf courses and managed to spare themselves the Boston blues of Feb. • Marion and Phil Donahue are first-time grandparents. His parents call him Liam Wesley, but the Framingham grandparents call him Lord Liam. Phil also reported his company was bought out. Phil remains well and upbeat, which are trademarks of a winner. • Jack Joyce is a principle of Alex Brown Investment Bankers, recently bought out by Bankers Trust. Daughter Nancy is about to graduate from college, and other daughter Kathleen works in Chicago in advertising. • A letter from **Tom Sheehan** shares that he has left the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration after 31 years. Before this, Tom had spent three years in the Army in Berlin, and says he met up with **Tom Jones**, then commanding officer of the military police detachment. Tom later went on to become a General before he retired. • Class sympathy is extended to the family of **Natalie D. Connors** who died Sept. '96. Natalie graduated from School of Nursing. Our sympathy goes also to the family of **Joseph Sullivan** from Medway who died Nov. '96. He leaves his wife Lynne and daughters Amy and Rebecca.

## 61N

Mary Kane Sullivan  
35 Hundreds Road  
Wellesley Hills, MA 02181  
(617) 235-1777  
MKSulli35@aol.com

As I write this, summer is having difficulty arriving here in the Northeast. Spring has been cold, damp and not fun. By the time you read this, summer will be over. Do you ever get the idea that life is flying by too fast? • At a most recent BC Alumni Association Awards Ceremony, I was happy to see **Julie Fazakerly Gilheany, Mary Walsh and Susie Ahearn**. We were there to honor a Newton College alumna, Sheila Mahony, Esq. '63, as she received the BC Alumni Association Award of Excellence in Commerce. • The week before, on Sat., May 3, many, many Newton College graduates came together at a special event held at Newton Country Day School. Sister Gabrielle Husson and Sister Mary Quinlan invited all of us to share Mass and brunch with them, as they prepare to leave the Boston area and retire to Kenwood in Albany, NY. It was a bittersweet occasion: we were all happy to see Sister Husson and Sister Quinlan looking so well, but we were sad to be saying good-bye-until-we-meet-again. The Mass and the brunch were filled with messages of remembrance and memories of the wonderful years we had at Newton. Ruthie O'Neil Kenney, Mary Walsh, Rosie Hanley Cloran, Mary Ann McDonald Barry, Barbara Feely O'Brien, Ellen Mahony King, Julie Halleran Donahue, Linda Gray MacKay, Alo Coleman Riley and yours truly were all there for the occasion. The Mass itself was beautiful; the sermon especially reminded us all of those things that have endeared these two wonderful women to us: their quality of life, of love and of service to perpetuate the Sacred Heart tradition. At the end of the Mass, there was a special ceremony recognizing the years of effort given by Rosemary Stuart Dwyer to our Boston Newton College of the Sacred Heart Alumnae Club. Truly a labor of love, and one without which we would most likely not have the wonderful network that we all appreciate. • We were sorry to hear that **Linda Gray MacKay's** husband Larry is very ill. Linda has asked for our prayers for Larry's recovery. • It was so nice to get a piece of *real mail* from **Kathy Hall Hunter**. Her new address is P.O. Box 449, New Vernon, NJ,

07976, phone: (201) 538-9257. Everybody please update your address books, and also remember that **Alo Coleman Riley** was inadvertently left out of the address book. Her address is 601 Glen Cove Street, Sebastian, FL 32958. Phone: (407) 589-7029. • Please guys, send me some news, or better yet, give me a call! The next best thing is e-mail. See ya! Happy summer!

## 62

Richard N. Hart, Jr.  
5 Amber Road  
Hingham, MA 02043  
(617) 749-3918

Our 35th class reunion was held on the weekend of May 16 to 18, 1997. Over 60 classmates attended along with a number of spouses and guests. The two highlights of the weekend were Boston College Night at the Pops on the 16th and a dinner dance just for '62 held in the Walsh Hall function room on the evening of the 17th. A great time was had by all who attended. • **Maureen James Ward** traveled the farthest from Rocklin, CA. A number of others also traveled a good distance to be there; **Albert Landry** from Sarasota, FL, **Frank Accetta** from Columbus, OH, **William Byrne** from Atlanta, GA, **Bob King** from Richmond, VA, **Robert Comizzoli** from Belle Mead, NJ, **Thomas Della Penna** from Kinnelon, NJ, **James Fitzpatrick** from Brooklyn, NY, **Charles Gabler** from Bronxville, NY, **Paul Lavin** from Catonsville, MD, and **Brenda Miller** from Silver Spring, MD. • Our condolences to **Paul Deeley** whose father passed away recently. • Congratulations to **Eugene Guerrera**, who was recently promoted to senior VP at Smith Barney in Hartford, CT. Congratulations also to Gene and his wife Patricia on the celebration of their 30th wedding anniversary. Gene also advises that his BC roommate, **George Wolfe**, has a law practice in NJ and resides with his wife Patricia Graham in Engelwood NJ. • Finally, our condolences to the family of retired BC athletic director, William Flynn '39, on his recent passing. Mr. Flynn began his career as athletic director just before most of us started with the Class of '62, and he served with great distinction for almost 35 years. He was the principal architect of the current sports program at the Heights, but more importantly, he represented the college with a great deal of character,

dignity and integrity! • Please keep the news on its way.

## 62N

Mary Ann Brennan Keyes  
94 Abbott Road  
Wellesley, MA 02181  
(617) 235-6226

Congratulations to all those who made it back to our 35th reunion. We all agreed we look the same and are aging quite well in spite of all the ups and downs that life brings! • Three cheers for Edwina Lynch McCarthy who was a one person show in the planning and carrying out of this reunion. She not only had an elegant dinner party at her Wellesley home Friday night, but she planned for all the details of Saturday night's dinner in Barat and all the other activities for our class. Edwina was also responsible for the class directory that we all received. • A very moving moment for all the reunion classes was the beautiful tribute to Sr. Husson and Sr. Quinlan as they begin another chapter in their very full lives. They are retiring to Kenwood and shared with us their longing for some free time to learn Spanish and Gaelic, re-read the *Illiad* and the *Odyssey*, pursue a more thorough study of Scripture, etc. What inspirational women who gave so much of their lives in the service of others—and what great role models for us. • While calling for the reunion, Barbara Lynch Dilatash told me she has her CRS and is selling real estate. She and her husband are enjoying getting away to their home in Vero Beach. Her daughter Kate '92 lives in L.A. and works for a health care company. Her son John

### KEEP IN TOUCH

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'90 is a trader. • Bobbi Schroetter Speck arrived at Friday night's dinner with several varieties of wine produced in the vineyard she and her three sons own. Bobbi and her late husband Paul, who died in 1993, found and developed the House of Pelham Vineyards and Winery in 1982. In 1992 Bobbi and Paul merged the private high school they found in 1972 with another school. Bobbi and her sons have made the House of Pelham one of the top premium wineries in Ontario. Be sure to visit their winery and historic estate if you are ever passing through St. Catharines, Ontario. Bobbi has returned to her original profession as a free-lance book editor, specializing in fiction and scripts. Her exciting new line of work is script supervision and continuity on film sets. • It was so great to see V.V. Martin with whom we have lost touch, due to an address error several years ago. V.V. works for a subsidiary of The New England and spends most of her time traveling around the country doing presentations. • Since our last reunion, Pat Beck and John Klebba have married, as has Betsy Baldwin and Paul Skudder, and Carolyn Dursi and David Porteous. I had a house-full stay with me and it was like being in the dorms again. Many of us at this age are going through life changes involving the arrival of grandchildren, husbands retiring, moves to new homes and even new careers. • Happy summer to you all!

## 63 REUNION MAY 15 - 17 • 1998

William P. Koughan  
173 TenEyck Street  
Watertown, NY 13601  
(315) 785-4132

J. Michael Scully, MD, FACS, FICS is a thoracic and vascular surgeon in Kennewick, WA. Dr. Scully and his wife Betty reside in Kennewick. Their daughter Jessica graduated from BC in '93 and is now in Sydney, Australia pursuing her master's in literature. The Scullys enjoy visiting Boston for medical meetings and to see their friends Larry Flynn and Doug McQuarrie. • Dr. Ellen T. Daly passed away July 30, 1996. She was a professor and associate dean at the College of Nursing at Northeastern Univ. and formerly a head nurse at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston. • We hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. Send us a postcard so we can update your classmates regarding your whereabouts and accomplishments.

## 63N REUNION MAY 15 - 17 • 1998

Marie Craig Wilson  
10319 Grant Lane  
Overland Park, KS 66212  
(913) 492-5030

## 64

Boston College Alumni Association  
825 Centre Street  
Newton, MA 02158  
(800) 669-8430

*One last note from Ellen Kane:* Our good friend **Jim Kealey** died August 28, 1995 in an automobile accident in NJ, on the way to visit a new grandchild. **Brian Condon** wrote me with a long and lovely tribute to Jim, who was a retired Lieutenant Colonel and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. Jim's widow Beth emphasized that his greatest source of pride was his five children. He worked very hard to help them muster the resources to maximize their educational opportunities, and succeeded in a very impressive manner. His daughter Edith graduated from Brown, spent time in Germany as a Fulbright Scholar, and then completed her studies at Harvard. Son Jim graduated from Fordham in '92. Son Nathan graduated from Brown in '95; daughter Rose Louise is a junior at Fordham; and son Kevin, the youngest, is a freshman at St. Joseph High School in Elicott City. At the time of his death, Jim had just accepted a position at U. of Alabama, and was looking forward to a peaceful second career in an academic setting with Beth at beach house that they had built together. Jim was in Paul and my wedding party, and was a good and hilarious friend. He will be missed. • **Celia Connell McDonough** had a private showing in Boston City Hall of her exquisite water colors. The reception was grand. Mayor Menino gave a complimentary and warm talk congratulating Celia on her beautiful rendering of historic Dorchester sites. • Hope all had a great summer.

## 64N

Susan Roy Patten  
136 North Inverway  
Inverness, IL 60067  
(708) 358-8897

Pat Rice was here in Chicago recently, covering the installation of

our new cardinal, Francis George, for her paper *The St. Louis Post Dispatch*. She is the religion editor and always has interesting stories to tell about her career. • At the time of this writing, I am looking forward to meeting Toni Pompeo in June when she comes for her daughter's graduation from the Univ. of Chicago. • The initial Chicago meeting for the Newton College Alumnae Professorship in Western Culture was held April 9. Attending from our class were Mary Joyce O'Keefe Dicola, Patty Thomas Gass, Ruth Craddock Jennings, Nancy Baby Kempf and yours truly. • Ann Marie Denisco L'Abbate attended the NYC meeting where she met Joyce Kneeland Hartke, Mary Jane Larkin, Carole Sorace Whalen and Jan Vosburgh Zak. Sisters Husson and Quinlan spoke at that meeting. You will be hearing much more about the professorship very soon. • Ann Marie also adds that her husband Basil is enjoying retirement, taking courses and going to opera and theatre. She is still selling electronics. Son Marco goes to Manhattan College. • I received a press release about Alice McLaughlin Grayson's being awarded the Pope Pius XI Award by the National Coalition of Clergymen and Laity. The award is given annually on the anniversary of that Pope's encyclical on the Christian education of youth. Alice has been actively involved with the pro-life/pro-family movement for many years. She founded and directed a crisis pregnancy center in Boston during the '70s and '80s, authored a book against classroom sex education and is also the founding director of Veil of Innocence, a grassroots apostolate in Minneapolis devoted to protecting the innocence of children in the classroom. • I have a very sad postscript this time. I just received word that Marietta DeNavarre is gravely ill with pancreatic cancer. She asks that we remember her in our prayers. Her address is 6622 Marinera St., Tacoma, WA 98407-1129; Tel. 206-759-9883. • That's all for now. I'm waiting to hear from you.

## 65

Patricia McNulty Harte  
6 Everett Ave.  
Winchester, MA 01890  
(617) 729-1187

My sincere thanks to all of you who voted for me and sent me notes. I was not elected, but I do appreciate

your support. Congratulations to Peter Olivieri who has received the 1997 Mary Kaye Waldron Award for his dedication and commitment to teaching, which he has been doing since 1970. This is an award given by the students. Peter is director of the BC Interactive Multimedia Lab, has worked on the Eagle Eyes project at the Campus School to help students with disabilities use the computer, and also directs the University's sports video production facility. He is a professor in the computer department of the Carroll School of Management. • Joe Vena writes from West Orange, NJ that his son Damien is a '97 graduate of BC, with a degree in communications, and his daughter Alexis will be a freshman in Sept. Joe is a lawyer with Mandelbaum, Salsburg, Gold, Lazris, Discenza & Steinberg, PC. • Tom Curley has published a biography of Sir Robert Chambers, entitled, *Sir Robert Chambers: Law, Literature and Empire in the Age of Johnson, a culmination of twenty years of research*. This and previous works are published by Univ. of Wisconsin Press. Tom and his wife Ann, an ER nurse at Brockton Hospital, are the parents of Jonathan, 24, a Brown grad and Fulbright scholar who is pursuing a PhD at Yale; Geoffrey, 21, a junior at U. Col. at Boulder; and Jessica, 19, a freshman at UMass-Amherst. • Jane Keefe Santosuosso and husband Frank live in Winchester with their son Frank, who has recently graduated from Mass. College of Pharmacy. Jane, who graduated with a nursing degree, has been on the adjunct faculty at Fisher College as well as a former member of the faculty at Quincy College. Jane has changed careers, and is now an associate broker at Century 21 Fortin in Winchester.

## 65N

Catherine Lugar  
25 Whitney Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Some recent postcards from "the Western Front:" **Lynne Doran Sterling** writes from Boise, ID that she and husband John now have four darling grandchildren; the landscape and nursery business is good; no plans to retire; and a fair amount of time is spent in a cabin in the mountains above Sun Valley. Last year, they spent two weeks in Europe, first traveling to France as honored guests at a World War II anniversary ceremony in Brittany in memory



of a cousin of John's, a B-17 pilot killed over St. Pere-en-Retz. Next they headed to Ireland, and spent time locating an ancestral homestead, "visiting a few pubs" and having "a marvelous time." • And from Minneapolis, MN, **Sandy Brennan Worthing** reports that she is now into the fourth year of a new post-teaching career as a massage therapist, with a practice both at home and in a downtown club in the city. Her watercolor paintings of flowers have been winning awards in local shows; son Angus just graduated from Princeton; daughter Kate is a student at Wheaton; husband Rich is job hunting, but they expect to stay on in Minnesota. Lynne says, "it's harder for all of us to write about our 'normal' lives" rather than "more noteworthy accomplishments," but she appreciates the brief summaries, "normal or exceptional." • So, please, keep your notes coming this way, sharing the milestones and challenges in the course of our lives, providing incentives to get, or stay, in touch.

## 66

Kathleen Brennan McMenimen  
147 Trapelo Road  
Waltham, MA 02154  
(617) 894-1247

## 66N

Catherine Beyer Hurst  
49 Lincoln Street  
Cambridge, MA 02141  
(617) 497-4924  
71521,1474@compuserve.com

I ran into **Kathy Brosnan Dixon** at the Philadelphia airport in March. Kathy was on her way back to Boston after visiting her first grandchild, and was going straight to the hospital to see her ill 90-year-old mother. We mused a little on the birth-death cycle; at mid-life it seems as if we really are positioned in between those poles. • Since completing her master's in public health at UMDNJ/Rutgers in 1991, **Joan Candee Collins** has been working part-time as a public health educator. She also serves as president of the NJ Chapter of the Society for Public Health Education, an organization of 150 health education professionals. Both of Joan's daughters are living in California; Laura is in med school at UC San Francisco, and Kathleen is a naturalist at an

outdoor environmental camp for sixth graders. At the time of the reunion, Brian was graduating from high school and getting ready for college. • **Sandra Puerini DelSesto** is executive director of Initiatives for Human Development/Human Ecology in Cranston, RI. Sandra missed her first Newton reunion a year ago! Her youngest daughter, Lia, graduated from Wheaton that same weekend, and her oldest son, Rick, was receiving his medical degree from UVM the following day (and then marrying a few weeks later). Sandra's second son, Stephen, married in Sept., and graduated from URI in Jan. '97. Sandra reports that she meets on a regular basis with Pat Ryan Grace, Joan Candee Collins, Barbara Childs Dwyer, Joyce LaFazia Heimbecker and Martha Roughan. She is also in regular contact with Carolyn Cassin Driscoll. She writes: "These women are my most intimate friends, and I have relied on their support, counsel, humor and advice over the last 10 years." In Oct., Sandra's husband Richard was offered a position in Oklahoma, similar to the job he had with the RI Credit Union League before it closed. Sandra and Richard are now working on a commuter marriage, trying to meet once a month in RI, OK, or somewhere in between. • **Sandra Thaxter** is a team leader for Lotus Notes for UNIX at IBM/Lotus in Westford, and the mother of two sons and a daughter. She writes that she is "proud of the Newton education that taught me how to think. I also feel that isolation from the real world perspective as a part of our educational community made transition harder. . . . My many years of effort to survive and create some financial and family life stability seem much less important than now focusing on my own voice, perspective and needs. I'm writing poetry and short stories, and just indulging myself in the exploration." About her job at Lotus, she writes: "I feel privileged to be part of a corporate culture where mutual self-respect, openness and honesty are practiced; where there have been many remarkable women managing critical corporate projects; and where diversity, acceptance, and integration of minorities and gay women and men is a part of everyone's everyday commitment and practice."

## 67

Charles and Mary-Anne Benedict  
84 Rockland Place  
Newton Upper Falls, MA 02164

Two people who weren't able to make our class reunion were **Bill and Marilyn Morency Brunelle**. Bill was at the National Restaurant show in Chicago, which is always the third weekend of May. We missed you both! Both Marilyn and Bill serve as alumni admissions volunteers in the S.F. Bay area. • **Bill Howard** writes with the sad news that his wife of 27 years, Ana, passed away. Ana had a long battle with ovarian cancer. Bill asks that any donations on behalf of Ana be sent to the Gilda Radnor Registry, Elm and Carlton St., Buffalo, NY 14263. The Class extends its condolences to Bill, their daughter Kristina and son William. • **Margaret Meg Cunniff** is teaching and is civilian director of students for Army families stationed in Okinawa. We extend to Meg our condolences on the passing of her father, Richard J. Cunniff '35. • Many classmates came a distance to celebrate our 30th reunion. The California contingent included: Peter Dervan, Kathleen Savino, David Sandy Shores and his fiancée, and Bob Cunningham and his wife Mickey. Tom Walsh came in from Atlanta; Betty Serow from FL, and Paula Edmonds-Hollifield from Twin Falls, ID. Joe Kiely and Jack Lambert represented NJ, while VA gave us Jim McConville. Charlie and Elizabeth Betsy Kelly Smith came in from MD. Not to be outdone, NY gave us John Ward, J. Peter Osmond and Bill Murray. We sat with Dave Twomey at Pops on Fri., and it was good to see John Berry, Marty Paul, Peter Gately, Joe O'Leary, Jack Keating, John Keenan, Paul Scarlata, Manny Rogers, Jr., Bill Risio, Joe Genevich, Bob McGinn, Fred Faherty, Frank O'Neil, Carol Coakley Genereux, Dennis Griffin, MD, Jim Cavanaugh, Leo McHugh, Al and Cindy Buttero, Bill Concannon, Donald and Susan Kelly McDonald, Carolyn Lucas and Jim Hughes. Forgive us for not including spouses who are not classmates, but space is limited. • Also saw Liz Kudzma, Dave Gay, Carroll Keough, Helen Purcell, Tom Harrington, Denise Roberts Delaney, Clint Morrell and Jeanne Criess. • **Len Doherty** was our wonderful chairman of the dinner dance on Sat. He outdid himself with the white spring garden chairs and marvelous white tent—and the live band said it all. •

It was good to see **Joan and Vin Iacono, MD** and **Jack McCarthy** who, with honorary development chair **Nick Sannella**, a BC trustee, helped our class achieve the distinction of giving the largest class gift of any 30th reunion class—\$1.4 million. • Thanks to all who helped celebrate our anniversary. We know many were elsewhere proudly watching sons and daughters graduate. Congratulations to you all; you deserve a huge round of applause! See you at our next event next fall.

## 67N

Faith Brouillard-Hughes  
19 Marrick Court  
Centerville, MA 02632  
(508) 790-2785

Kudos to **Mary Ellen Haley, Sandy Miller, Michelle Mastrolia and Ro Golden** for a very successful reunion. The gracious surroundings of Michelle's home, the large turnout (33), the humorous name tags (our yearbook pictures), the sumptuous meal, the glowing candlelight—well, just everything added up to a delightful evening. • **Maria Lina Santos** traveled from Manila to add her warm and elegant presence. How we have missed her! On her way to Newton, she had stopped in CA to visit a daughter at Stanford. From Newton she went to make apartment arrangements for both daughters in NYC, then on to Italy to visit the daughter finishing her studies there—and to have a semi-private audience with John Paul II. Maria Lina's roommate, **Josie Higgins**, sent a fax from San Palo urging us to enjoy, while regretting she could not share the celebration in person. • **Connie Adams** of Hampstead, NH was delighted to have a day with **Kathy Riley** of Buffalo, NY who flew in and out of Boston in less than 24 hours. • **Maria Metzler** came up from TX. Her youngest is still looking for **Adrienne Tarr's** oldest to come from Rice for Thanksgiving, but, as you know, he graduated several years ago. • **Anne O'Keefe** left rural NJ to get to Newton for the first time in 30 years. Also coming from NJ—**Rosemary Ryan and Mary Ann Peters**; **Noreen Connelly** was expected, but didn't make it. • Representing CT were **Janet Lotz and Barbara Gada**. Barbara got a chance to visit **Gayle Forbes** in Boston before coming to the dinner. • **Joan Cooper** of Atlanta was happy to report to us that her daughter would be graduated



from BC the following day. Last reunion, she was waiting to hear if she would get in! • **Terry Lane** of Pound Ridge, NY and Michelle had an interesting conversation about college teaching, preparing future teachers and the efforts of today's collegestudents. • **Marianne Cuiffo** of Bronxville, NY, **Sue Egan** of Shaker Heights, OH and **Kathy Donohue** of Kentfield, CA also made the trip to Newton and environs. It appeared to them that more women from '67 attended Saturday's discussion and luncheon and Sunday's Mass and brunch than any other class. Good show! • MA was well represented at Michelle's, so watch this column for the news! *Note:* If you want it correct, send me a note to refresh my memory. Locally, **Maria Vitagliano**, **Dennie Hern** and myself were together at the Day School just the week before reunion. We represented the class at the reception given by M. Husson and M. Quinlan to say good-bye to Boston and hello to Kenwood, NY. Put them on your mailing list and don't forget a card or picture of yourself for **Kathy Taft**, c/o Greenwood House, Main Avenue, Warwick, RI.

## 68 REUNION

MAY 15 • 17 • 1998

Judith Anderson Day  
11500 San Vicente Blvd.  
The Brentwood 323  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

Hearty congratulations to **Christopher Kip Doran, MD** on his election to the BC Alumni Association Board of Directors! Kip joins my husband Jim as a Director, West of the Mississippi. Kip and his wife Maureen O'Keefe '69 live in Denver. Kip will serve a two-year term, and our class and our university will enjoy splendid representation with him on the Alumni Board! • This past spring, Jim and I visited our youngest son, Andrew, who was enjoying a semester of junior year abroad in Ireland. We continued on to a very beautiful and moving visit to Normandy and the D-Day beaches, and then celebrated my birthday amid the splendor and beauty of my favorite place, Paris, the City of Light! A dazzling dream come true for the birthday girl! • We are excited about the upcoming football season! We plan to attend the home opener against West Virginia with our friends, Loren '67 and **Sue Walsh Miller** of Chicago. • Dreaming of a New Year's Bowl game for our BC Eagles! See you at the Heights!

## 68N REUNION

MAY 15 • 17 • 1998

Kathleen Hastings Miller  
8 Brookline Road  
Scarsdale, NY 10583  
(914) 723-9241

## 69

James R. Littleton  
39 Dale Street  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167  
(617) 738-5147

**Joe Egan** is a manager with McDonald's in Washington, DC, where he resides with his wife LaTanya. The Egan's son graduated from Howard Univ. this spring. • **Chuck Klemballa** is senior VP at American Marketplace Foods in Paterson, NJ. Chuck's wife Jeannette is teaching 3rd grade at Aquinas Academy in Livingston, NJ; daughter Michelle was married last March; daughter Carolyn will start her senior year at BC in Sept. at the same time daughter Tricia will start her freshman year at BC. The Klemballas reside in E. Hanover, NJ. • **John Esposito** is a financial planner with American Express, working out of Danvers. John, his wife and children, Mary, Joseph and Christopher, reside in Georgetown. • **Greg Barber** was elected to the BC Board of Trustees last year. Greg chairs the Athletic Development Advisory Committee, and was recently appointed chairman of the BC Fides society. Greg, an E. Greenwich, RI resident, is founder and co-chairman of Providence Ventures Inc., a leading cable television investor. Greg's son, Gregory Jr., starts his senior year at BC this fall. • I hope you have had a good summer. Please take the time to write me and let me know what is new with you.

## 69N

Patricia Kenny Seremet  
39 Newport Ave.  
W. Hartford, CT 06107  
(203) 521-8567

## 70

Norman G. Cavallaro  
1024 Newgate Road  
W. Suffield, CT 06093  
(860) 668-0867  
normcav@northcove.com

## 71

Robert F. Maguire  
46 Plain Road  
Wayland, MA 01778  
(508) 358-4393  
FAX: (617) 893-7125  
magu4@aol.com

Our first annual Class Mass and dinner was held March 15. Rev. **Thomas Garlick** was the moving force to establish this event to remember our departed classmates. **Ed Saunders** reports that Fr. Tom celebrated a beautiful Mass with the assistance of Deacon **Tony Rizzuto** and memorable music selections. Among those attending were Maureen Foley Rousseau, Mary and Joe Rull, Mike Power, Helen Walsh McCusker, Jim Deveny and Bill Branca. The group was intimate but enthusiastic, paving the way for the continuance for what will be a growing event. • News from Brussels: **Robert Amen** faxed to say he and wife Claudia have five children, the youngest arriving just last year! The oldest, Rob Jr., is entering his senior year at BC, twins are at Duke and another is a senior in high school. Robert reports that life in Europe is pleasant, and work as president of International Paper-Europe is very challenging. He would enjoy hearing from friends: Tel 32-2-774 1201, fax 32-2-770-2337 or at Robert.Amen@IPaper.com. • Our condolences to **Mary Rull** upon the death of her dad, Charles Keefe. • A hearty welcome from the BC family is extended to the Class of 2001. Entering the Class of '01 is my nephew Christopher Reynolds. He is the son of Kathie '69 and Skip LAW '71. I am sure you each know of sons and daughters continuing the BC tradition. Share them with us. • A basketfull of good wishes to **Jim O'Brien**. A true professional and a fine gentleman; success will definitely follow him in his new position as head coach of Ohio State basketball. • Many memorable occasions occur on the Heights; none more inspiring however than the presentation of the BC Alumni Awards. Congratulations to McKenney Award recipient, Joe

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently moved, changed jobs or gotten married? Call us to update your record so we can keep you up-to-date on friends, classmates and BC happenings. You can call (617) 552-3440 to change your record by phone, fax (617) 552-0077, e-mail [infoserv@bc.edu](mailto:infoserv@bc.edu), or drop a postcard to Boston College Information Services, More Hall 220, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.

Dowd, MD '49. His accomplishments and those of the recipients of the Awards of Excellence are truly inspiring. • I just checked, and the telephone bill is paid. Hope to receive more news of the Class of '71.

## 71N

Georgina M. Pardo  
6800 S.W. 67th Street  
S. Miami, FL 33143  
(305) 663-4420  
[ed.gigi@worldnet.att.net](mailto:ed.gigi@worldnet.att.net)

My apologies to **Kildeen Moore**, I lost your letter. Please write again so I can include the info. in the next set of class notes. All of you out there with e-mail: my computer awaits. Writing letters is not my forte, but I'm very good about e-mail. Hope to hear from you soon!

## 72

Lawrence G. Edgar  
530 S. Barrington Ave., #110  
Los Angeles, CA 90049  
(310) 471-6710

We had quite a turnout at the Reunion; I will get to that topic shortly, but first I wanted to describe some other events. There were at least 29 class members present at St. Ignatius Church on Laetare Sunday, March 9. The chairman for our class, Charlie Ciano, had quite a surprise when he called the priest to whom he'd been referred, Rev. Jim Morris. The phone was answered by a young girl, who called "Hey, dad" when Charlie asked for him! Jim is an



Ukrainian Byzantine rite priest who is married while continuing in the priesthood. • Among other class members who were actively involved were Joan Donahue Martin, who served as Madam Toastmaster, Mike Spatola and Marian Peters, who were Eucharistic ministers, Jim Finigan, who was a lay reader, and Kathy Power, who was a presenter of gifts. • Just before I left for the Reunion, I got to attend a birthday celebration for John Coll at the Santa Ana Country Club, where he's the former president. Also there was John Sidoli, who tells me that he's formed his own company to develop CDs about entertainers, as he did about Bob Dylan for his last employer. • Now for the Reunion: Dee Dee Covino and her committee are to be commended for a job well done, not only for planning a very pleasant weekend, but for compiling an impressive Reunion yearbook. There were more than 200 in attendance at the main event, the dinner dance on Saturday night. First, some of the ones who came the farthest to attend: Connie Volstad came in from London, where he's one of the top executives for Merrill Lynch. He's in the process of transferring to their headquarters in NY, after some 13 years in London. My fellow Gold Key Society officer Pat Stoute came in from Oakland, where he works as an alcoholism counselor. • Others from CA included the often-mentioned Brian Corrigan and Ed Jantzen. • John Doherty, who is doubly my classmate (Dartmouth, as well as BC) came in from Chicago, where he's a consultant with KPMG Peat Marwick. Also in attendance from the Windy City was corporate attorney Frank Ziegler. • Orthopedic surgeon Tom Moore attended from

Atlanta, where he's a part-time team physician for the Atlanta Hawks. • In my suite of rooms in the dormitory, we had plenty of scientific talent, including Drs. Pat McGovern and Kevin Nealon and PhD chemist Frank Roby. Pat, who's a vascular surgeon in Bayonne, NJ, reports that his son P.J. is a star hurdler at his alma mater, St. Peter's Prep. Kevin, who practices internal medicine in Chevy Chase, MD, has four daughters, the second eldest of whom will enroll in BC this fall. Frank has two teen-age children, and says that he keeps in touch with Bob Egan, the artistic director at the Music Center here in Los Angeles. Bob is the ex-husband of "Star Trek" star Kate Mulgrew and a friend of actors Jimmy Smits and Pierce Brosnan. • That's enough for now. I'll save some more reunion news for another issue. Meanwhile, please write.

## 72N

Nancy Brouillard McKenzie, Esq.  
7526 Sebago Road  
Bethesda, MD 20817

Once again, Newton alumnae in the Washington, Maryland and Virginia area enthusiastically enjoyed our fourth annual spring tea, hosted this year by Grace Tamm Escudero '61. Thank you, Adrienne Tarr Free '67, for once again acting as coordinator for this event. Joining us from Boston were Anne Duffey Phelan '71, Carol Donovan Levis '63 and Kathleen Hegenbart '67. Anne, our alumnae contact at the BC Alumni Office, provided us with tremendous support for this well-received event. Carol informed us about all aspects of her service as the Newton College representative on the BC Alumni Board, her activities as a member of the Awards of Excellence Committee and the Nominating Committee, as well as her work on the Task Force on Women at Boston College. In addition, Carol advised us about the career services available through the Alumni Office for all BC and Newton College graduates. Kathleen, Newton College Chair of the President's Circle executive committee, apprised us about our outstanding support of the Newton College Scholarship Fund and the new Newton College Alumnae Professorship in Western Culture. Lisa Kirby Greissing, Margie Molidor Dooley and I represented our class. • Finally, Adrienne has started planning for next spring's tea and would love to

hear from volunteers. • Our 25th Reunion Committee deserves a tremendous thank you for our wonderful 25th reunion. **Judy Birmingham Harrington**, our class treasurer for the reunion, will be sending me the class questionnaires to share with everyone. • For now, I can report that upstairs at the Pudding's **Mary Deibel** hosted a Friday night reception that may still be going on. The classmate who came the farthest was **Connie Yuchengo Gonzalez**, who came with her mother from the Philippines to attend the reunion and her daughter's graduation from Wellesley College. Runners up include three classmates from California and Nevada. • On a sad note, please remember in our prayers our deceased classmates **Jane Hamilton Devitt** and **Elena DeLasa**, as well as **Penny Price Nachtman's** father and **Betsy Leece Conti's** sister, **Mary Pat Leece '70**. • Take care.

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**REUNION**  
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Joy A. Malone, Esq.  
16 Lewis Street  
Little Falls, NY 13365  
(315) 823-2720  
FAX: (315) 823-2723  
e-mail: robjoy@ntcnet.com

Hello classmates. The most difficult part of my job is now upon me. I am sorry to report the death of one of our classmates. **James R. Augenthaler**, SOM, passed away suddenly on Oct. 28, 1996, from a heart aneurysm. His friend **Leni Muscarella** wrote the following eulogy: "Jimmy was a great friend, with a huge appetite for life and an even larger sense of humor. He was also a devoted son of BC; generous in his giving, active in BC's Wall Street Council, and always ready to attend a football or basketball game. Jim leaves behind a loving wife, Debbie; two children from a prior marriage, Bobby and Kathleen; his mother, Pat; a brother; and four sisters. (By the way, all but one of Jim's siblings are also BC alumni.) Dozens of Jim's BC classmates and friends attended his funeral mass. Those wishing to express their condolences can write Debbie at 74 Marjorie Court, Manhasset, NY 11030." • Congratulations to **Helena T. McDonough**, CNM, MSN, who was elected to be a regional representative/member of the board of directors of the American College of Nurse-Midwives. After leaving BC with her undergraduate nursing degree, Helena went on to receive her master's of

science and certificate in nurse-midwifery from Yale Univ. Helena began the first private certified nurse midwife practice and set up one of the first birth rooms in Mass. She is currently in private practice at Wareham Obstetrics, Midwifery and Gynecology in Wareham. • Received the following amusing e-mail from **Christopher Harold**, which I print verbatim: "saturday work rain very busy BC mag alum notes say hi computer dumb/novice can't type slow learning curve anyway first time contact BC mag alls well spouse teenagers etc bye." Thanks, Chris, for saying it all! • Lastly, classmates, another e-mail, this time from **Tom Casaubon**. Tom wrote the following to us: "This is the first time I have thought to write in all these years, but two recent events have convinced me that it's time. I have kept reasonably in contact with some of my BC friends, usually by way of meeting for dinner, or an occasional golf outing, but there are many I have seen rarely, or not at all. To begin with, I married my high school sweetheart, Elaine, in Dec. '73; since then we have lived in FL, TX, CA, ME, FL again, MA, NH, and three years ago, we moved back into the house in Southbridge that was my family home from the time I started college. We have two kids, now ages 21 and 18, and after seven years as a Navy pilot, and 16 years flying for Delta Air Lines, I have finally achieved my ultimate career goal. In Nov., I completed training and began flying as a captain. I am currently working out of Delta's New York pilot base, and any of you who fly the Delta Shuttle just might find me in the cockpit on your next flight. The other thing that prompted me to write is that my daughter, Becky, who graduated from William and Mary this spring, will enroll in BC's biochemistry PhD program in the fall to begin studying for her doctorate. So, I've come full circle, in a way. As a sophomore pre-med chemistry major, I struggled with organic, and needed to bail out of the sciences in order to make it through. I never suspected that my progeny would, one day, return to the Heights to complete what I had started." Tom welcomes correspondence from any of his old BC friends. His address is: 589 North Woodstock Rd., Southbridge, MA 01550 or e-mail Tom at: HiflyerTC@aol.com. • Well, out of space (they give me a 700 word limit each column, you know.) Please note my new e-mail address. Bye-bye.

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently moved, changed jobs or gotten married? Call us to update your record so we can keep you up-to-date on friends, classmates and BC happenings. You can call (617) 552-3440 to change your record by phone, fax (617) 552-0077, e-mail [infoserv@bc.edu](mailto:infoserv@bc.edu), or drop a postcard to Boston College Information Services, More Hall 220, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.



# 73N

## REUNION

MAY 15-17 • 1998

Christine Hardiman Cristo  
241 Elliot Street  
Newton, MA 02164  
(617) 630-1915

Our condolences go to **Joan Brouillard Carroll** and her family. Joan's mother died suddenly Jan. 8. Joan is now VP and senior trader in fixed income at Boston Institutional Services. • **Lynn Terry Tacher** lives in Orlando, FL with her two children, Geoff and Megan, and teaches the mentally handicapped at Union Park Middle School. She is working on a certification in varying exceptionalities at Univ. of Central Florida. Dr. DiMattia from BC is bringing the Eagle Eye Project to the students at the school. BC has already made a trip down and tested the students. Now, it's just a question of the school's obtaining the funding. Quoting Lynn, this is "very exciting stuff for kids with limited hand movement and communication." Geoff is finishing his freshman year in high school and plays the tuba. His band, University High School Cougars, was voted best band in the Southeast by the Rose Bowl Committee. An honor roll student, Geoff also plays offensive guard in football. Megan is entering eighth grade and plays the French horn. Joan and Lynn want to start an NCSH '73 e-mail network to help plan for our 25th Reunion. Joan's address is jcarroll@bostonis.com, and Lynn's is geoff@gdi.net. E-mail them, please. • **Nancy Warburton Desisto** recently started a new job in Maine, which is a 15-minute commute from her home. • **Peggy Warnken** is living in New London, CT and is with Merrill Lynch private client group. • I talked with **Sue Iovieno-Sunar** recently as she was getting ready for the senior all-night party at Mansfield High, "Midnight Pencils." Sue has art alumni come back to the school, and she and they sketch portraits of the students during the course of the night. On a professional level, Sue is director of visual and performing arts for the Mansfield public schools, as well as VP of the Mass. Directors of Arts Education. She is also listed in *Who's Who in American Education* and *Who's Who in American Women*. • Congratulations to **Peggy Beyer** and **Ralph Sager**! They were married last June. • **Paula Votyko** has moved to new digs in Houston. • I met **Celeste Walker** at a party to kick off fundraising for the establishment of the Newton College Alumnae Pro-

fessorship in Western Culture at BC. Celeste is still working for Adams Papers and lives in a condominium near the Arboretum in Jamaica Plain. Special guests of the evening were Sisters Gabrielle Husson and Mary Quinlan. Both nuns will soon be living at Kenwood in Albany, NY, enjoying a well-deserved retirement. • On a personal note, Bill and I are in the process of redoing our kitchen and bathroom. I have made more trips to Home Depot than I care to remember. We should be all finished by the end of the summer. In Sept., we will treat ourselves to a vacation in London and in Rome. • Because of increased family responsibilities, I am looking for someone to replace me as class correspondent. Any volunteers?

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Patricia McNabb Evans  
35 Stratton Lane  
Foxboro, MA 02035

# 74N

Beth Docktor Nolan  
693 Boston Post Road  
Weston, MA 02193

# 75

Hellas M. Assad  
149 Lincoln Street  
Norwood, MA 02062

Hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful summer. Some wonderful news arrived from fellow classmates. • Once again, **James Rosencranz**, continues exercising his entrepreneurial skills, opening his sixth cafe named "Wok on the Wild Side." All classmates are invited to enjoy a complimentary hot egg role with James at his Brookline restaurant. • **Leon Cleveland** has been appointed senior VP of sales of the eastern region for American Urban Radio Networks. Leon has over 25 years of business experience, beginning his career in 1972 as a production assistant at WGBH-TV in Boston while attending BC. During college, he also worked for the local YMCA in public relations and as an assistant manager of a CBS-owned record store. In 1985 Leon joined National Black Network as an account executive, later working for Sheridan Broadcasting Network as a senior marketing executive. He is a mem-

ber of the International Radio and Television Society and the Radio Advertising Bureau. • **Richard J. Harris** has been appointed management supervisor at Eric Mower and Associates, Buffalo, NY. Richard will be responsible for managing the agency's Marine Midland Bank account. Previously, Richard held positions at M&T Bank as well as senior marketing manager at IMS America. Richard received two master's degrees: one from Western Michigan Univ. in communications and a second from Suffolk Univ. in business administration. • I hope to see many of you at the BC football games beginning Sept. 13. Take care and keep the correspondence coming.

# 75N

Deborah Melino-Wender  
110 Champlin Place N.  
Newport, RI 02840

# 76

Gerald B. Shea, Esq.  
10 Groaton Road  
W. Roxbury, MA 02132

A paralegal at the Boston law firm of Casner & Edwards, **Angela R. Anderson** served on our Reunion committee. Now she's been elected to serve a two-year term as a director on the Alumni Board of Directors. She also is secretary for the AHANA Alumni Club. Congratulations! • **Ellen Boylan Fick** is an adjunct professor in the department of communication at Univ. of Scranton. She received her master's from Cornell in 1985. • **Adrian C. Taylor** resides in Washington, DC and works there for CBS News. He's a senior producer of "CBS This Morning" and also produced "Eye to Eye." • Waltham High School proudly claims **John W. Cox** as one of its dedicated teachers. He also finds time to serve on the board of directors of the Charles River Museum of Industry, chairman and treasurer of the Waltham Historical Commission and secretary of the local Babe Ruth League. • **Robert S. Rusak** is senior VP and CFO for Time Inc. News Media's Excalibur Group, a provider of online distribution services in NYC. He and wife Patricia reside in Mountain Lakes, NJ. • **Patricia A. Day** served as deputy director of labor relations for Mass. Bay Transportation Authority before moving on to serve as chief of

labor relations for the Southeastern PA Transportation Authority. In the latter position, she was credited with helping to avert potentially disastrous worker strikes over the course of five years. Now Patricia has joined the Boston law firm of Sherin & Lodgen, LLP, where she will bolster their labor and employment practice. • Another legal Eagle, **Patricia J. Igoe**, has joined the firm of Peabody & Brown in Providence, RI as a partner, concentrating on commercial lending, business, real estate and health care law. Patricia received her law degree from UPenn in 1979. • Does a cool spring portend a sultry summer? Well, enjoy what comes, and stay healthy and happy during "the lazy hazy crazy days," as the song says. Please drop a line to yours truly. God bless!

# 77

Mary Jo Mancuso Otto  
256 Woodland Road  
Pittsford, NY 14534  
(716) 383-1475  
PENNEY256@aol.com

What a success! 300-plus classmates attended our Reunion in May, coming from as far away as Alaska, California and Washington. Friday evening, our class got together in Boston Harbor on the Spirit of Boston dinner cruise or joined with other alumni at the Pops at BC Night at Symphony Hall. Saturday night, our class dinner party at O'Connell House was jam-packed; Bruce Springsteen and Fleetwood Mac were quite at home with this crowd on campus. Yes, the continuous running slide show of us and our BC haunts—and the Streaker film made in our very own Dust Bowl—brought back incredible memories. **Jennifer Lynch** put together a booklet about classmates who responded to a Reunion questionnaire. Call and leave a message at (617) 350-8811, x126 to request a copy. We wrapped up the weekend with Father Frank Murphy celebrating a memorial Mass on Sunday to remember the more than 20 classmates who have passed away. Make your reservations now for the 25th in 2002! • Please write with news of your summer—hope it was a great one!! I spent a week at the Cape in June, and we have added a beautiful Golden Retriever puppy named Boomer to our family. (See what you'll have to put up with if you don't write?) No news was submitted for this newsletter, which had a deadline of June 1. You must be out



## KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently moved, changed jobs or gotten married? Call us to update your record so we can keep you up-to-date on friends, classmates and BC happenings. You can call (617) 552-3440 to change your record by phone, fax (617) 552-0077, e-mail [infoserv@bc.edu](mailto:infoserv@bc.edu), or drop a postcard to Boston College Information Services, More Hall 220, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.

there doing something—getting new jobs, relocating, getting married, having babies, going on exciting vacations, etc. Please write! Deadline for the next column is Dec. 1. Thanks.

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# REUNION

MAY 15 • 17 • 1998

Cathleen J. Ball Foster  
15105 Cedar Tree Drive  
Burtonsville, MD 20866  
(301) 549-3211  
[CathyBC78@aol.com](mailto:CathyBC78@aol.com)

Hope everyone is edging gently and gracefully into their 40s. Recently, my eldest, Cadi, graduated from the Fire Academy, being chosen Montgomery County "Cadet of the Year" and receiving the Academy's top academic award. Yep, you betcha, Caitlin wants to be a firefighter, and will be attending school locally where she will be studying fire science, (which, alas, BC does not appear to offer as a major), in college. She just turned 18; with this came the shock of realization that she was now older than I was when I began attending BC. How this happened is truly a mystery to me as it seems that she was but a little one not so very long ago. This fall should be interesting: I will have one child starting college, one, (Lauren, the straight A "artiste" and long-suffering middle child), starting high school and my baby, Jared, (who is swiftly losing all of his baby teeth and has just turned 6), starting first grade. • A big round of applause for **Debbie Boole Smelko** who was one of the 1997 Girls, Inc. "She Knows Where She's Going" award recipients, an award given in recognition of women who

have overcome barriers in their route to success and for their contributions as leaders. Debbie was also the first female to receive the 1994 Against All Odds Award presented by the American Paralysis Association in recognition of her fulfilling life and advocacy for people with disabilities, and also received the Alumni Association's Award of Excellence in Commerce last year. Debbie manages more than 650 technical employees in six locations for Texas Instruments. She and her husband Tom live in Richardson, TX with their kids, TJ, Peter and Katie.

• Congratulations to **Michael J. Crowley** and his wife Tanya on the newest addition to the Crowley brood, Cormac, born Nov. 2. He joins older sister Pavlina and big brother Timothy James. Michael also sent an update on his activities since graduating: he graduated from Univ. of San Francisco Law School in '81 and served as a public defender in Eureka, CA for five years. Following his stint in Eureka, Michael traveled through Southeast Asia, meeting his Canadian-born wife and wedding her in '89. The following year, he became a partner in the law firm of Zwerding & Crowley. • **John D. Giordano** has been named VP, CFO and treasurer for North American operations of Bull Worldwide Information Systems, headquartered in Billerica. John is responsible for overseeing all financial matters for Bull North America. He lives in Hopkinton with his family. • **Gail Lyman Dutcher** was recently named as financial staffing consultant to coordinate the operation of CFS, the financial staffing division of Hood & Strong, LLP, which provides temporary and temporary to permanent financial and accounting staffing solutions for Bay Area companies. Gail is the current president of the BC Club of Northern Calif. and has more than 15 years of experience as a business administrative manager. • **Pat Magrath** writes that this is the first time in 19 years he's felt the urge to write. What did he write and why did he write? "Are you all right? Is no one interested? Or perhaps... is this a ploy to get more people like me (who love to read about everyone else, but don't give any info. on oneself) to respond so we'll have lots to say next time? (ha, ha)." He wrote because of the profound silence from me these past couple of issues. Not at all like me, wordy as I am. Apparently, there was a problem converting the files I sent via e-mail to BC and my only hard copy disappeared into the void I fondly refer to as "my

desk." The disk I mailed to BC mysteriously returned to me in the form of a disk from another class correspondent. Hmm... failing to have taken Latin, all I can say is "*Mea culpa*." If you sent something and have not seen it, feel free to send it again and I will use all media at my disposal (yes, I will even resort to fax) to see that it reaches publication. Oh, and Pat? How about some info?!

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Laura Vitagliano  
78 Wareham Street  
Medford, MA 02155

Hi! I hope that all of you had a wonderful summer! • **Pat Henaghan** spent a month during summer '96 traveling through Spain and Portugal. It was his 10th trip over there! (I wonder what he did this summer?) He's still chair of the foreign language department at St. John's Prep in Danvers. He can be reached at [toro57@aol.com](mailto:toro57@aol.com). • **Robin Murdock-Meggers** and her husband **Tom Meggers** live in Manchester, CT with their two boys, Peter, 11, and Patrick, 7. Tom is a district manager for Pfizer Pharmaceutical and has been with that company since graduation. Robin is a partner in a law firm in Manchester. She was prompted to write about the mini reunion that Mod 22A had at their summer home at Black Point Beach, CT. In attendance were **Diana Jackson Funchion**, her husband Matthew '78 and their three children, Nick, 14, Katie, 11 and Caroline, 8. They traveled from their home in Devon, PA. **Maureen Donohoe Callahan** and her husband John came from Pembroke with their children, Brendan, 7 and Emily, 3. Last, but not least, **Nancy Weeks Cantone** and her husband Greg came from Concord with their daughters, Brooke, 9, and Haley, 5. They had a wonderful time reminiscing and were hoping to do it again this past summer. Robin and Tom named their boat "BC-n-You." • **Kerry Mahony** voluntarily resigned from Bank of New York where she worked as human resources manager for four years to do some traveling. She left in late April for Southeast Asia, in hopes of visiting Thailand, Malaysia, Sumatra (in Indonesia) and also Vietnam. She plans to be gone six to seven months, and hopes to do some scuba diving, visit temples, elephant preserves, bat caves, and do some hiking. She added

that, upon her return in the fall, she may be calling on some alumni for job networking! • **Ed McKenney** took a two-week tour of Europe last spring. On the beautiful postcard he sent, he wrote of visiting Austria and Germany and having a great time. • And what was your summer like??

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Jay Cleary  
170 West 23rd Street  
New York, NY 10011

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Alison Mitchell McKee, Esq.  
1128 Brandon Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451  
(757) 428-0861

As you probably recall, in my last column I reported the sad news that Sue and **Joe Harkins** lost their two-year-old son, Ryan, in Nov. after a long illness. I recently heard from Joe, who wanted you to know not only how much he and Sue have appreciated your thoughts and prayers, but also that shortly before Ryan's passing away, Sue and Joe were blessed with a healthy second son, Christian Joseph. Joe wrote that while Ryan is irreplaceable, there is a special twinkle in Christian's eye which leads them to believe that his brother's brave and loving spirit also lies within him. Congratulations to the Harkins family on that wonderful news. • I enjoyed hearing from Dr. Edwin Thomas '44 of Naples, FL who informed me that his son, **Kevin Thomas**, finally left bachelorhood behind on Oct. 12. Kevin and his bride Tracy were married at St. Mary's Church in Nantucket and had their reception at the Sanbrey Head Golf Course. Kevin is a dentist; he and Tracy live on the water at Marina Bay in Quincy. • **Jamie Dahill** is an account manager for Amgen in Manhattan and lives in Larchmont, NY. • Congratulations to **Michael Connelly** who received the BC Alumni Award of Excellence in Law in May at a ceremony at the Heights. As you may have read, US Attorney General Janet Reno presented Michael with the John Marshall Award last year, an award given to the best prosecutor in the country. As Assistant US Attorney General for the State of New Hampshire, Michael prosecuted the largest commercial bribery case ever prosecuted by the Department of



Justice. I've been told that in accepting the alumni award Michael (whose hair has thinned a bit in the last 15 years) commented that prior to receiving Attorney General Reno's award, the only award that he had ever received was the "Most Likely to Recede Award" presented by his dormmates at BC! Congratulations Michael on these tremendous accomplishments, from all of the Class of 1981!

## 82

Lisa M. Capalbo  
55-A Wedge Row  
N. Providence, RI 02904

It was great seeing all those classmates who attended our 15th Reunion. I cannot believe it has been 15 years since we graduated, because all of us still look *so* young. It definitely seemed like old times again. I did not take notes at Reunion, so I must rely on all of you to send in your latest news. To those of you who told me that you have been meaning to write but never do, here is your chance...**Mark Bronzo, Laura Murray Harris, Jim Ambrose and Greg Good**, only to name a few! • Thanks to **Joe Blood, Dave Canavan and Kathy Kasper** for their hard work on a job well done. But will we ever get out of The Rat? • Remember to save this date, Sat., Oct. 25, for the annual Michael P. Murphy Memorial Golf Tournament which will be held this year at Ocean's Edge in Brewster. The proceeds go towards a scholarship fund established in Murph's memory which provides financial assistance to a deserving student in the School of Management. The organizers decided to try holding the event at the Cape in hopes that more MA classmates will attend. As always, contact the event coordinators, **Jon and Mary Rather, Peter Lipsky, and Jamie and Measi O'Rourke**, for additional information. Hope to see you all there! • Congratulations to **Patti Lynch Harwood** and husband John on the birth of their fourth child, Olivia Anne, last Jan. She joins John, Kylie and Lindsay in Pawtucket, RI. • **Nancy Toscano Harrington** and husband Paul became parents of twin girls in March, Grace and Elizabeth. The Harringtons live in Scituate. • **Dr. Christopher Meriam** and wife Patricia announced the birth of their daughter, Rose Catherine, in Feb. She joins brother Silas in Dover, DE. • News arrived from **Gaye**

**Bielski Steinke**. She and her husband Jim live in Vail, CO with their two children, Meredith and Corey. Gaye is general manager at Vail Cascade Athletic Club. Thanks for the letter! • **Diane Saino Howard** wrote that she lives in Windham, NH with her husband Jim and their children, Andrea and Steven. Diane works part time at Mitre Corp. in Bedford as a software engineer. • **Inez Alvarez Trigg** lives in Medfield with husband Jim and daughter Danielle. She is a software manager with Marcum Corp. • **Cindy Hooper Nottle** lives in S. Peabody with husband Jimmy and sons, James and Ryan. Cindy currently works for a publishing firm in Boston, editing mathematical books for children. • **Monica MacIsaac Silvey** and husband Paul live in N. Billerica with their two children, Joy and Brian. • The Class extends its deepest sympathy to the family of **Francis Nicoll, Jr.** who passed away in March. Fran and his wife Kate have two children, Alex and Liam. • **Mark Reardon** and wife Megan announced the birth of their son, Kevin. He joins Sara, Claire and Michael in Wilmington, DE. Mark is a partner in the law firm of Elzufon & Austin, PA. • **Linda Blouin** completed an MBA/MSN program and is working as a liaison for Staff Builders Home Health Services. • **Mike Miller** is living in NYC with his wife Liz and their two children, Phoebe and Ian. Mike is a partner with Fritz & Miller, specializing in civil and white collar litigation, and is an adjunct professor of law at the Benjamin Cordozo School of Law. • **Sue Kurker** moved to Portland, OR with husband Edward and sons, Kevin and Bryan.

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**REUNION**  
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Cynthia J. Bocko  
71 Hood Road  
N. Tewksbury, MA 01876  
(508) 851-6119  
bocko@pictel.com

Hope everyone had a wonderful, refreshing and fulfilling summer. Here's all the news that you've been waiting for! **Ann Grady Adorn** and her husband Frank attended the 53rd Presidential Inauguration in Washington, including the Presidential Gala, the AFL-CIO cocktail party at the Rock, the Inauguration ceremony and the Northeast Inaugural Ball at the Old Post Office Pavilion. Events also included attending a luncheon hosted by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and his family, whom Ann

served as regional campaign manager in 1994. Ann returned to serve as event chairperson for the 1996 Inaugural Gala hosted by the Middlesex, Worcester and Norfolk Regional Democratic Alliance. Ann is the mother of Daniel Grady Adorn born Aug. 7, 1993, and is expecting another child in Nov. Ann and her family live in Medfield. • **Patricia Leahey Meriam** and Christopher Meriam '82 announce the birth of their daughter, Rose Catherine, born Feb. 22. She joins brother Silas, 3. • **Greg Chotkowski** and his wife Maribeth Maloney Chotkowski '84 are thrilled to welcome their first child, August Madison Chotkowski, born Aug. 3, 1996. Greg is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon in private practice in mid-town Manhattan. Greg graduated from Tufts in '87 and did his residency at New York Hospital, Cornell Univ. Medical Center. Greg's offices are state of the art, and he gives special consideration to any BC grads! Greg's wife is a lawyer and is taking a sabbatical to do "momming." Greg and Maribeth have lived in Manhattan for 10 years. • **Dan Head** and his wife Karen had a baby boy, Michael Liam, on Oct. 22, 1996. Dan has been working at BankBoston for 12 years and recently joined the high technology division, providing corporate banking and other financial services to information technology businesses based in New England. Karen is a partner in Children's Therapy Associates, a speech and occupational therapy practice in Natick. Dan and Karen attended a St. Patrick's Day party in Weston at the Cambridge School. **John McLaughlin** and his wife Katherine Morley '82 hosted the party; they had a baby girl Jan. 4. Also present were **Tom Sliney**, who is completing his master's in finance at BC; and **Tom Fay** and his wife, who have two children. • **Lou Bortone** celebrated his five year mark living in L.A. He was recently promoted to VP of marketing for Saban Entertainment, a children's television company. Lou and his wife Diane just bought a new home in Woodland Hills, CA and are enjoying life in sunny L.A. Lou misses his pals **Jim Morgan** and **Fred Harris**, and was happy to hear about their new arrivals in the last column. • **Tara Pangakis** is starting a co-op program between her employer, Digital Equipment Corp., and BC's School of Management. Tara has been an educational consultant at DEC for almost 14 years. Tara and her husband Jim '81 have two children, Katina, 6, and Nicholas, 2, and are living in a house that

Jim designed and built in N. Andover. If anyone wants to buy their vacant condo in N. Reading, just contact Tara! • In May, I started an exciting new job at PictureTel Corp. in Andover!

## 84

Carol A. Baclawski, Esq.  
55 Greenwood Drive  
Freehold, NJ 07728

**Barry Hartunian** is completing a two-year international assignment with GenRad, Inc. He's based in Manchester, England as the corporation's European human resources director. He will soon be returning to his home in Needham. • **Brett Koons** is working as a business analyst in the personal communications division of Electric Data Systems. He lives in Monroe, LA where he is a part of the on-site team at the Century Telephone account. • **Jim and Melinda Ziegeweid Nelson** are living in Excelsior, MN, a small town near Minneapolis. Their son Peter will be three in March. Melinda has her own marketing communications consulting business. Melinda says hello to Ellen Lynch, Paul Reader, Ann Stingle, Bernie Diaz and Michelle Pinaud. • **Lisa Hauck** married Paul Borkovich in Los Angeles in May '96. Lisa is a registered nurse and takes care of acute stroke, head injury, brain tumor and seizure patients. She works in the neuroscience unit at UCLA Medical Center in L.A. Lisa and Paul live in West Los Angeles. • **Carol Donahue Moore** and husband Patrick welcomed twins on Jan. 8., John Paul (Jack) and Rhodora Margaret. They join siblings Annette, 6; Charles, 4; and Robert, 2. They live in Naples, FL as does Carol's sister, Maureen Murphy '85 and her four children. Carol writes that several members of her family vacationed in Rome this past summer and met Pope John Paul II. • **Julie Wojtkowski Rhodes** and husband Bob recently welcomed a son, Matthew Francis. The baby joins brothers Steven and Chris. They are all preparing to leave Ft. Leavenworth, KS this summer for a two-year tour to Camp Zama, Japan. Julie writes she will be vacationing back East before their July move to the Orient, and would like to hear from friends before leaving. • Hope to hear from more of you!



## 85

Barbara Ward Wilson  
32 Saw Mill Lane  
Medfield, MA 02052  
(508) 359-6498

Hello again to the Class of 1985. I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer. • **Joseph F. Perito** has been in the Marine Corps for over eleven years. He was deployed for six months to Aviano Air Base in northeastern Italy. His squadron was flying Deny Flight missions in support of operation Deliberate Guard over Bosnia-Herzegovina. For several days in May he participated in the evacuation of noncombatants from Albania. His aircraft is the EAGB, a tactical electronic warfare jet. He returned in Aug. • Congratulations to **David Smalley** and his wife Caroline on the arrival of Abigail Amelia on Dec. 10. Abigail joins her sister Madeline, who turned two in May. The Smalley family lives in S. Pasadena, CA. • Congratulations to **Bill and Kathy Reilly Britt** on the arrival of Michaela Kathleen. She joins her older brothers Ryan and Sean. • **Betsy Sullivan Brown** has completed her dual masters: MBA from Kellogg of Northwestern and MSN from Rush. She has loved living in Chicago but chose to move back to Boston this summer. Betsy hopes to see a big crowd at the annual "Dash for Dave" Dave Brown Memorial Road Race on Sun., Sept. 14. The contact phone number for additional information is 508-230-2574. • **Lynn Pelletier Spencer** is busy on her Highland Farm in Woodstock, VT with her husband Stan and children, Cody and Rebeka. They are making maple syrup and still own Tortilla Flats, a restaurant in Providence, RI. • **Sue Penders Abely** lives with her husband John and their children, Brian and Claire, in Basking Ridge, NJ. Sue works part time in a pediatric office. • **Phil and Robin Minemier Callahan** live in Wilmette, IL with their children, Cassie and Leah. • **Susan Tellier Perticone** lives in Darien, CT with her husband Joe and their four daughters: Lacey, Lexie, Hollis and Isabelle. • **Donna Herlihy** is married to Eric Zucker and lives in Los Angeles. She has her master's in social work. • Congratulations to Bruno and **Kathleen Burke Mastropasqua** on the birth of Grace Elena on Dec. 9. They live in NYC, and Kathleen works for First Boston. • **Betsy Poel** lives in Boston with her husband Gary Mitchell; she works at the Four Seasons Hotel in

Boston. • Congratulations to **Bob and Susan Lifvendahl Marren** on the arrival of Kevin James on April 25. He joins his siblings Tom, Megan, Robby and Kristin. The Marrens live in Wellesley. • Frank and **Diane Steblaj** and their daughter Alexa have moved from New Jersey to the San Francisco Bay area. • Please keep those notes and cards coming to me in the mail. Your correspondence helps to keep this column interesting.

## 86

Karen Broughton Boyarsky  
2909 The Concord Court  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Greetings from Maryland! My husband, **Bruce Boyarsky**, has taken a new job with a post press finishing company—Bindagraphics, Inc., in Baltimore. We have recently moved the family to Howard County, which is 20 miles outside of Baltimore and 30 miles north of Washington, DC. Bruce will be the director of plant operations at his new company. We would love to hear from any alumni living in this area! • We were recently in touch with Bruce's former BC roommate, **Mark Dacey**. Mark is an eye surgeon who specializes in surgery and disease of the retina. He finished a fellowship at USC, where he was chief resident, and then returned to Boston where he is with Vitreoretinal Consultants. He operates at Mass. Eye and Ear Infirmary in Boston. Mark lives in Charlestown. • **Lizanne Tague Kenney** and husband John Kenney '87 are the proud parents of four babies, born May '96! John Michael, Mary Margaret, Evelyn and Grace are all doing well! Good luck to the parents and congratulations! • Hi to **Nancy Connors Mignosa** and congratulations on the birth of daughter Kate born in the fall. • Best wishes to **Tricia Casey Sullivan** on the birth of daughter Kristin Casey. • **Kerry Moroney White** is a new mom: son Brendan was born in the fall. • **Kelly Fitzpatrick McLaughlin** and her husband Mark are living in San Francisco with their two daughters, Haley Summer and newborn sister, Samantha Skye. • **Maria Ramos Cottrell** was recently married to Eric Cottrell; they're living in Atlanta where Maria is an attorney with the EPA. • **Linda McCarthy** is proud to announce the release of her first original compact disk, "*Lady in the Harbor*." Linda has been composing rock music since her days at BC; you

may remember her songs "*Reunion*" and "*Bigger the Band*." Linda's music focuses on environmental issues, world peace, social justice and AIDS. Linda's song "*Quilt*" is under consideration for an independent film soundtrack. Linda has also composed a rock opera entitled, "*The Messenger*," based on John the Baptist, which she hopes to submit for workshop space in NYC. If you are interested in backing this endeavor, or have theater contacts, please contact Linda at e-mail address: lmdair@ix.netcom.com or call (201) 261-3338. If you would like to order "*Lady in the Harbor*," please send \$12 to PO Box 3, Bergenfield, NJ 07621. 10% of proceeds are donated to the Fedelco Guide Dog Foundation. Best of luck, Linda! We'll be listening for you! • Last but not least, I'd like to hear from any classmates who are involved in their local alumni club. Please drop me a note about what you've enjoyed participating in. Thanks! Write soon to our new address!

## 87

Catherine Stanton Rooney  
4 Bushnell Terrace  
Braintree, MA 02184

Hi! Hope that everyone had a wonderful relaxing summer, and is looking forward to an exciting football season at the Heights. Here's who I've heard from lately: **Steve Yoch** and his wife Andrea Munster Yoch '89 wrote with news of their son's birth. Ryan Wiley was born on Dec. 29; they're living in Shoreview MN. • **Mary Kenney Monagle** also had a new addition. Brendan was born on Nov. 21, and joins dad Kevin and big sister Eileen who's 2. They're living in Wellesley Hills. • **Aristeo Galian** sent a beautiful postcard from San Francisco, where he graduated from Univ. of San Fran with an MBA in finance and international business in May. • **Rocko Graziano** sent an e-mail that he started the new year with a promotion, and is now in charge of strategic and tactical power. He finished up his second term as a town selectman in Readfield, ME in June, and was named one of Maine's best political pundits for the second year running. • **W. Kevin Kline** was named assistant treasurer at Cambridge Savings Bank. He works in the marketing department managing the bank's research and development projects. He received his MBA from BC in '91. • **Maura O'Connor** and hus-

band Brian had their second child, Patrick Ryan, who joins sister Molly. • **Laura Barlow** is VP/communications for the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association and executive editor of the *St. Louis Commerce Magazine*. She was recently named one of St. Louis' "Forty under forty." She also founded the St. Louis Young Professionals Group. • **Julie Battista** recently earned her master's in special education from Providence College. She is currently teaching second grade at Bayview Academy in East Providence, RI. • **Paula Flanagan** began a career as a marine mammal trainer at the NE Aquarium after graduation. In '92 she became a supervisor for the dolphin program in Key Largo, and then in '94 went to work for the Chicago Zoological Society with a breeding colony of dolphins in Marathon, FL. She was just elected CFO for the International Marine Trainers Association. • **Caroline Falvey** has a new job at T. Rowe Price in Owings Mills, MD as a new business specialist in their retirement plan; she has been happily married for five years. • **Ed and Katy Connell Barry** wrote with some news: he's a science teacher at Matignon High School, and received his MEd from BC in '93; she's a nurse at Beth Israel; and they have two children at home in Watertown: Hannah, 3 and Christopher, 1. • **Gina Birmingham Cohen** married Adam Cohen in Sept. '92 in Newport, RI. Eagles present at the wedding included **Craig Spano**, **Mary Cignari Donovan**, **Dean Inglese** and **Marichi Racela**. Gina is an attorney with the National Title Services Division of Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Co. in Boston; they live in Swampscott. • **Philip Menna** and wife Laura recently welcomed Valerie Allison on July 7, 1996. She joins big sister Holly Nicole. • **Maria Dunn** is teaching legal research and writing at Univ. of Illinois College of Law and practicing law part-time. • **Mary Clarin** and husband John '84 moved to L.A. from Boston last year, where she's home with their two daughters, Abigail, 2, and newborn Catherine. • **Karen Mendalka Hoernner** and husband Mark welcomed Ingrid Elizabeth in April. They are at home in Chatam, NJ. • Thanks again to all of you who took the time to write, and a belated thanks to the Reunion Committee who did a wonderful job planning our 10th! It was a lot of work that was done on their own time, and I'm sure I speak for all of us there when I say that we really appreciated their efforts. • See you in Dec.!



Laura Germak Ksenak  
532 4th Street, #2  
Brooklyn, NY 11215  
(718) 965-3236  
ljk882o@is3.nyu.edu

Ahhh, there's nothing better than the start of BC football season. By the time this news reaches your mailboxes, I will be starting my last semester toward my master's in special education at NYU, my husband **Steve Ksenak** will have a few months under his belt as an associate at King & Spalding in NYC, and we'll be making our plans to drive up to BC for homecoming. Hope to see some of you there this year. • Another couple combining learning and King & Spalding are **Pamela Genovese Baltz** and husband Ray. Pam and Ray live in Atlanta where Pam works for Learning International, and Ray is an associate at the flagship office of K&S. • Pam's is just one of the innumerable updates that **Gina Baluyot Saba** sent in. Gina and husband Peter, both lawyers, are living on the air in Cincinnati with son Georges who was born Dec. '95. Without further ado, here is the *Reader's Digest* version of the rest of Gina's elaborate report. • **Missy Adams Brown**, husband Steve, and son Connor are also living in Cincinnati. • Another neighbor of Gina's, **Dan Hillenbrand**, is working for his family business in the Riverfront City. • **Ellen Dadekian Caffrey** and husband Tom live in Rhode Island with little Eagle, Ella Julia, born Nov. '96. • Back in Boston, **Melissa Missy Russo** is working on her MBA at Babson. • **Gizelle Gigi Galang** is a lawyer in the Big Apple. • **Catherine Doody** keeps

moving, and Gina doesn't know where she is now, but she wanted to mention her, so I indulged her. • **Dave Craft** is using his JD and MBA as an attorney in Michigan. • **Doug and Peggy McGill Mantz** live in Maryland with daughter Sarah. • **Theresa Puleo Agnew** and husband Drew live in Pennsylvania, and that's all Gina knows about them. • **Lisa Mollicone** is happy, in love and in school in NYC. • And **Charlie Heekin** and wife Anne live in Chicago with son George. Phewww—now some news from some non-Gina sources. • **Christine McGinniss** is a true francophile, living in Paris with French husband, Yves Marque (*ah oui, amour*). Since moving to France, Chrissy has been working for American companies such as NBC and Planet Hollywood. *Vive La France!* • Another expatriate, **Scott Callahan**, wrote to let us know that he and wife Charlene have been living in Hong Kong since '92, where Scott is an associate director for Sumitomo Bank Capital Markets. Charlene took leave from teaching at Hong Kong International School to be full-time mommy to Meghan, born June '95, and Bridget, who just came on the market in March. • Coming to America from Guatemala is John Carlos Scully. John was born in San Marcos on March 25 and will join the population of Walpole, Mass. and jubilant parents **Mark and Maura King Scully** right around the time this issue hits your mailboxes. Warm welcome, little Eagle. • **Tim Weber**, Special Agent, (I love that title) at Northwestern Mutual Life in Greenwich, CT, wrote to update us on himself and family. Tim and wife Julie (married in Rocktober '94 with **Jim Vanderslice** at their side as the best of men) brought home a BC warm-up suit clad Meghan Elizabeth in Feb. Best man Jim hasn't been sleepless in Seattle, working for an Internet company, but Tim and Julie are looking for any spare zzz's they can get in Norwalk. • **Katie McCabe** is wearing several hats these days—VP of asset based finance at BTM Capital Corp., president of BC's MS in Finance Alumni Association (yes, she has one, too), and also teacher of financial management at BC's Center for Irish Management. • **Rachel Shaw Higgins** writes to inform us that she and husband **Paul Higgins** and a bunch of other classmates celebrated nuptials in Jan. with **Frances Barrett** and husband, the good Doctor Stephen Foster. • Another man of medicine, **Jim Sorrento**, DMD, and his betrothed, Helane Daniels of

Lexington, announce their plans for a Nov. wedding at the Copley Plaza. • A good dentist is hard to find and lo, another one—**Mark Farina**, licensed orthodontist, and **Lisette Martinez Farina**, part-time marketer and full-time mommy to Stefano, bought their first home in Tampa after seven happy years of marriage. • Lisette also writes that **Tom and Alina Fernandez SanGiovanni** are living in Miami where Alina is teaching and Tom is completing a fellowship in orthopedic surgery. • It was refreshing to hear about a few of doctors, but now, as is routine, back to the lawyers.... • **Bonnie Vairo** is balancing the scales of justice and motherhood in southern Florida where she lives with husband Eric Heatzig and baby Alexander. • **Mike Woodbury** exchanged vows with Kim Smith '95, and now the happy couple live in Miami, FL where Mike is a commercial litigation attorney with Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, a New York-based law firm. Mike would love to hear from some old friends, so contact me for Mike's info. if you're so inclined. • And a hearty congratulations to **Elizabeth Rourke** who has been named partner in the international firm of McDermott, Will & Emery. Elizabeth practices employee benefits law out of McDermott's Chicago office. • I have to say, you guys are good. Thanks for all of your news. Keep sending it all, verbose and small, and it will be warmly welcomed.

## 89

Joanne Foley  
936 E. Fourth Street #3  
S. Boston, MA 02127

**Kathleen Frost** and **Billy Hogan** are the proud parents of their first baby, William, born June 16. • **Allison Baker** and David Provost welcomed the birth of their second daughter, Julia Evans, on June 14. Julia joins her sister Sarah, 18 months. • **Anne Egan** married Jeff Marcotte in Oct. '92; they're currently living in Nebraska City with their daughter Elizabeth, 2, and son John, 6 months. Anne graduated from Creighton Univ. Law School in May '92. • **Michelle Lally** opened her new shop, *Elegant Entrances*, last Oct. in Hanover. Michelle carries beautiful decorative accessories, many of which she manufactures herself. • **Terry and Todd Laggis** are living in Clinton, CT with their

new daughter, Jillian Anne. • **Stacey Tedeschi Grant** and associates opened Crescent Realty Group in Hanover, a full service brokerage company. • **Kenny Grohe** and his wife Annie are the proud parents of Erin Maureen, born Feb. 15. Kenny is a senior account consultant for EMC Corp. in Hudson, OH. • **Tricia Hilman** married Michael Pender in Brooklyn, NY where the couple is currently living. Those in attendance at the festivities were: Carol Ann McAuliffe and her husband John Delmonico, Maureen Ramsey and her husband Ian Johnson, Kathy Moran, Rose Stabile, Helen Gaudette, Tracey Tully, Mike Lazzari, Ginny Min, Joey DeMarco and Tom Flood. Tricia is an assistant VP for Alliance Capital on the fixed income trading desk. **Carol Ann McAuliffe, Maureen Ramsey** and **Kathy Moran** are still living in Boston. Carol Ann and Maureen are working for Fidelity Investments, and Kathy works at BU. Jinnee and **Joey DeMarco** had their first child, Sarah Sunjai, on Sept. 10, 1996; she weighed in at 7 lbs. 4 oz. Joey is a lawyer in New Jersey, and Jinnee works at Alliance Capital. **Rose Stabile** received her MBA from Thunderbird Univ. in Arizona. **Mike Lazzari** lives in Manhattan and works at Chase Securities. **Helen Gaudette** lives in Brooklyn, recently received her master's in medieval history and is currently pursuing her PhD. **Tom Flood** is working at Regis High School. • The girls from 1711 were all reunited last July in CT for the wedding of **Gina Totterham** who married William Croxton. Gina is a teacher in the NYC school system. Jack *Smack* and **Rob Wondolowski** were at the wedding. • **John Doherty** and his wife Jane Anderson welcomed their baby boy, Owen, on Dec. 24. John is operations manager for Aggregate Recycling Corp., and currently lives in Cape Elizabeth, ME. • **Eric Pike** and **John Albrecht** have been working in San Francisco as accountants on the CBS Television series "*Nash Bridges*" since last July. The show will be completing its second season in April, with the third season scheduled to start shooting in July. This is the first project that Eric and John have worked on together. They can be contacted at DVDIAMOND@aol.com., or the word is that the two can be found at

## KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently moved, changed jobs or gotten married? Call us to update your record so we can keep you up-to-date on friends, classmates and BC happenings. You can call (617) 552-3440 to change your record by phone, fax (617) 552-0077, e-mail [infoserv@bc.edu](mailto:infoserv@bc.edu), or drop a postcard to Boston College Information Services, More Hall 220, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.



The Red Jack Saloon on Tuesday nights or The Buchanan Grill in the Marina the rest of the time. John has been happily married since Oct. '95 to Kimberly Lane, and has recently relocated to Mill Valley for what he hopes will be a long stay with "Nash." Contact John at the above address if you want a "45 minute special" Bay area tour as **Tom O'Hara** recently did while in the area on business/mini vacation. • **John and Cheryl Horne Wilkinson** had their first son, John Edward Jr., on April 10; he was 9 lbs., 7 oz. He joins big sister Lindsey Rose, 2. John passed the CPA exam last spring and was recently promoted to assistant controller at Gallo Wine Sales of NJ. Cheryl is working part-time from home as a human resources consultant for her former company, National Electronic Information Corp. The Wilkinsons reside in Fanwood, NJ. • **Nancy Hall** and **Steve Tischner** announced the birth of their daughter, Kennedy Olivia Hall Tischner. She was born Jan. 24 and weighed in at 7 lbs. 8 oz. Nancy thinks she may follow in her footsteps and become a BC cheerleader. Nancy still practices law as an associate at the law offices of Gargano & Associates in Cambridge. • **Ted Thud Thibodeau Jr.**, now living in the "quiet corner" of CT with his fiancée Christina Oertel is working in the communications dept. of MFS Investment Mgt, freelancing as a Macintosh consultant, singing and recording with his group "Mother Tongue," and in his copious spare time, preparing to launch a philanthropic entrepreneurial venture. Ted and his Mac would love to hear from folks who miss him at thud@earthspirit.com. • **Theresa Katie Travis** is engaged to Bob Arnold and is planning a June celebration. Katie has been the homeless service director of Focus for five years and is taking a break to snowboard in Montana this winter. • That is all for now. I hope everyone received the last quarter's update in the mail. If you did not please contact the Alumni Office for your copy at 800-669-8430.

## 90

Kara Corso Nelson  
2100 Dover Court  
Windsor, CT 06095  
(860) 285-8626  
scott.kara.nelson@snet.net

My apologies to **Judy Siffard** whose name was misprinted in the last issue (scanning software is not perfect yet!). Judy is human resources manager for a gourmet coffee shop chain on the South Shore called *Marylou's*. She is living in a beachfront apartment in Scituate and hopes to catch up with BC classmates "surfside!" • As of Sept. '96 **Maureen Appleyard** became a CPA and finished a master's in tax at Bentley College in Dec. She works for Parent, McLaughlin and Nangle in Boston. Maureen ran into **Elise DeWinter** and **Rosa Silva** at a BC leadership conference. • **Julien Goulet** and **Sabeth Fitzgibbons** were married Sept. 21, 1996. • **Kelty Flaherty Kelly** and husband Troy had their third child, Gabrielle, last July. • **Christine O'Connell MacLellan** and her husband Ryan welcomed their first daughter, Katherine, into the world last Sept. • **Bernhard Frei** is CEO of Quicornac, S.A., an Ecuadorian company that makes fruit juices for local consumption as well as exportation. He and wife Denise live in Guayaquil City with their two sons. • **Justin Maiona** married Jennifer Devine in June '96 in Ogunquit, ME. Ushers were **John and Mark Harrington**, **Paul McHillenney** and **Brian Saunders '92**. **Rob Zeuthen** was also in attendance. Justin and Jennifer live in Natick. Justin practices family law with his brother Matthew '92 in their firm Maiona & Maiona on State Street in Boston. • **Ty Watanabe** married Camille Lai in Honolulu, HI in July '96. BCers that attended were **Janet Leung** and **Connie Wong**. Ty recently received his MBA from Univ. of Washington and is now working in the internal audit group at AT&T Wireless (McCaw Cellular Communications) in Redmond, WA. • **John Nee** has moved to London for a two-year program as audit manager with Coopers & Lybrand. He and his wife, Christy (who is working for Fidelity there), are living in Kensington, home of Princess Di. • **Pablo Bizjack** has transferred from Boston to L.A. with Fidelity Investments. He has left the cold of New England for a place on the beach in

L.A. • **Mike Sullivan** and his wife Jennifer are currently living on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Mike left Sheraton to oversee all of the hotels owned by Colony Capital, Inc., a real estate investment company based in L.A. • **Julie Murphy Horner's** first child, Brian Thomas, was born Jan. 4, 1996. She and husband Ray are expecting their second in July. They relocated from southern California to the Dallas, TX area last year. • **Mark and Kerri Burns Walsh** had their first child, Tyler, on Nov. 11, 1996. • **Becky Murrin Lamanna** and her husband Jim had triplets on March 4. The two identical girls, Samantha and Elizabeth, and one boy, James, arrived one day after their older sister Sarah turned two. • After finishing graduate school, **Chris Inglesi** decided that music is where it's at. He's in an all-original Boston-based band called "Primrose Path" (check out his web page: [www.primrosepath.com](http://www.primrosepath.com)). • **Paul Edmondson** and wife Molly Kelly '91 welcomed their daughter Katherine into this world Dec. 22. They live in Charlotte, NC where Paul is an account executive for Procter & Gamble. • It is with great sadness that I report the passing of **Stephen Shrestinian**. Stephen died suddenly on Nov. 14, 1996. He was a gifted singer and musician who had performed with the Boston Lyric Opera Co. While at BC, he was an active member of the university theater and dramatics society. All of his friends miss him dearly—he was a truly extraordinary person.

## 91

Christine Bodoïn  
9 Spring Street  
Everett, MA 02149  
(617) 389-2700

Hello everyone; enjoying the last part of summer? First off, any letters that you sent me during the months of March and April were lost by the postal service from my change of address. So if you don't see your news that you sent me during those months in these notes, please send it again. • **Midge Carolan** married John Berkery on April 29, 1995. **Betsey Grady** and **Dory Ricci '92** were bridesmaids. Other alumni in attendance were: Angie Vook, Susie Doherty, Kristen McOskar, Jen Rhodes, Andrew Reilly, Kate McCauley '92 and Rob Johnston '92.

**Midge** and **John** live in Chatham, NJ. • **Betsey Grady** married **Tim Royston** on May 12, 1995. **Midge** and **Nicole Hess** were bridesmaids. **Betsey** and **Tim** had their first child, **Catherine Melissa**, on Oct. 3, 1996 and presently live in Bethesda, MD. • **Melissa Schwab** married **Alan Rwambuya** last May 17 on Newbury Street. The reception was held at the Copley Plaza Boston. In attendance from '91 were myself, **Anamirta Otero**, **Laura Gricus**, **Ellen Cullinane**, **Monica C.**, **Monique Acevedo**, and **Jennifer Gillette**. A good time was had by all! **Melissa** and **Alan** live in NYC. • **Heather Barry** married **David Bonner** on Aug. 20, 1993. They had their first child, **Danielle**, on Oct. 19, 1996. **Heather** wants to contact **Aileen Kelly** and **Cynthia Errico**, as she lost her address book during a recent move. **Heather** can be contacted at [Davebonner@juno.com](mailto:Davebonner@juno.com). • **Ted Jenkin** and his wife **Genna** live Bethesda, MD. **Ted** was promoted to a field VP position with American Express Financial Advisors in their Washington DC/Baltimore market. **Ted** and his wife are expecting their first child at the end of Aug.! • **Bill and Lisa Romanovitch McManus** welcomed the birth of their identical twin boys, **Keenan William** and **Tyler Bruce**. The twins were born 12 weeks early. **Keenan** went home to God after 36 hours, and **Tyler** came home to his house in Stoneham on Oct. 3, 1996. **Tyler** started at two pounds and will celebrate his first birthday weighing a whopping 17 lbs. Please send a prayer for his continued health. **Lisa** would also like to congratulate **Cathy Im** on obtain-

## KEEP IN TOUCH

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ing her master's and **Franny Bateman Bisselle** on the birth of her daughter.

## 92

Paul L. Cantello  
200 Christopher Columbus Dr. # C-8  
Jersey City, NJ 07302  
Paul.Cantello@NWMARKETS.com

It was great to see so many people at the reunion. Look for details of who was there in the next issue! • **Gary Guzzi** worked at Digital Equipment Corp. for three years as a financial analyst. In 1995, he resigned and enrolled in BC Law School where he is currently in his second year. This summer he is an associate at Hale & Dorr, a Boston law firm. • **Nicole Jozwiakowski** was married to **Jamie Condon** on June 10, 1995 in Milwaukee, WI. **Margaret Leonard**, who married Ian Wright in Louisiana in June '94, was the maid of honor. Other bridesmaids were **Sarah Condon**, Jane Condon '97 and Sarah Gunter. Jamie is currently an account executive at Arnold Communications in Boston, and Nicole is a sales rep. for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of MA. Nicole is attending the MBA program at BC. The couple resides in Brookline. • **Mike Zilis** and **Erin Hurley** were married Aug. 24 in Boston. Classmates in the wedding included Kristine Hyde, Kevin Thomas, Christa Hainey, Chris Yeomans, Brad Schroeder, Scott Matarese, Mike MacNeill and **Dave Mastostefano**. Other classmates in attendance were Joe Lukas, Maggie Gould Stewart, Kelly Flynn, Debbie Madden and Glenn Leonard. • **Brian Russak** is working for the Spanish Chamber of Commerce and is editor-in-chief of their quarterly magazine. In April he moved to Spain, where he'll be living for about two years. • **Carol Belletete** is living and working in Denver. She is a writer/producer at a television station. • **Stephanie Davis** married Capt. Oscar Brenninkmeyer, USAF in Oct. in Washington, DC. **Kathryn Fitzpatrick** and **Elise dela Houssaye** were bridesmaids. Also in attendance were **Ruth Mateo**, David Diana '91 and **Jodi Lauderbach**. Stephanie is completing her master's in strategic intelligence at the Joint Military Intelligence College as a civilian with the Department of Defense. • **Jeff Petruska** is in his fifth year of a PhD

in neuroscience at the Univ. of Florida College of Medicine. He is engaged to Sara Reynolds '94 who is also at the medical school. Jeff is working on peripheral nerve injury repair, with the group working on spinal cord injury repair. He has a patent pending for a neural control prosthetic. • **Trevor Smith** passed the Kentucky bar exam in Oct. '95 and currently works for the KY Supreme Court. • **Anthony Karamas** is working for Sage Products, Inc., selling medical supplies in the Boston area. He recently purchased a two-family home in Chestnut Hill, one mile from BC. He was an usher at **Dave** and **Kim Bahs Rector's** wedding. • **George Voegelé, Jr.** is an associate with the law firm of Pepper, Hamilton, and Scheetz in Philadelphia. • **Eileen Correia** completed her master's degree from BC's graduate school of education and is now teaching at Bishop Feehan HS in Attleboro. • **Elizabeth Moran** is a senior financial analyst at Houghton Mifflin Publishing Co. in Boston. Last summer, she went on a two-week safari in Tanzania, Africa. • **Dawn Weisser Bergschneider** and Alan C. Bergschneider are living in Tampa, FL. Alan is a senior accountant at KPMG Peat Marwick, and Dawn is an at-home mother of two boys, ages 4 and 16-months. • **Jennifer Ward** and **Peter Joel** are engaged to be married on June 7. Jennifer is working in human resources at K-III Communications in NYC. Pete is attending Wharton after working for JP Morgan in NYC. • **Stacia Dauran** is a consultant with Merrill Lynch in Boston. She currently lives in Cambridge. • **Jennifer Gaus** is in her fifth year of teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in NJ. She won the Rudolph Award for Science Excellence two years running. She spent the summer in Ecuador doing volunteer work in the rain forest and traveling. • **Malieita Gousie** is the director of Redeemer Ministry Corps, a full-time post-graduate volunteer organization serving inner-city Philadelphia. • **Mark Rasmussen** is a regional planner at the Buzzards Bay Project National Estuary Program in Southeastern Mass. working on coastal resource protection. • **Brad Roe** has been writing for *Mountain Bike Action Magazine* for the past four years, and is now entering graduate school at UCSB to pursue a master's in classics/ancient history that will hopefully continue on to a

doctorate. • **Christopher Young** will graduate in June from Univ. of Texas Medical School. • **Michael Tullis** is working for Deloitte & Touche's valuation group in Dallas after receiving an MBA from Southern Methodist Univ. in '96. Michael his wife and Debbie Sullivan Tullis bought a house in Coppell, TX. • **Dimitrios Angelis** is in his second year working for the Japanese Ministry of Education in Japan. He will probably stay a third year. Each year he conducts a homestay with **Jason Panos**, bringing 20 Japanese students to Boston and to BC. • Become active with your local BC Club. They plan many events and it's great to meet people from other classes. I recently did a Habitat for Humanity Project in Newark with the BC Club of New Jersey. The Young Alumni Club in Boston has events planned for this summer. Get involved!

## 93

**REUNION**  
MAY 15 • 17 • 1998

Alison J. Pothier  
Flat 4 9 Prince Arthur Rd  
London NW3 6AX  
pothier\_alison@jpmorgan.com

Yet another football season is upon us as we enter into our 5th year away from BC! Lots of change in the lives of our classmates: • Having completed a master's in organizational communications in '94, **Melissa Lewandowski** attended Suffolk Univ. Law and also received her J.D. in May. Best of luck in taking the Mass. bar. • **Maeve O'Meara** is living in Chicago and writing a satire about college life; she'd love to hear BC input, so send her an e-mail of all your funny stories at momeara@usr.com. • **Molly Kenah** and **Jennifer Williams** are living in Boston, where Molly works for Teradyne and Jenn is completing her MBA/MSW at BC. • **Amy Donovan** is a nurse in Boston, and just passed her pilot's license! • **Rob Carroll** moved back to Boston, where he is living in an eligible bachelor's "frat house" with **John Ladd**, **TJ Murphy**, **Christian Megliola**, **Mike Stravin** and **Bob Luiso**...can those guys ever be apart? • Speaking of inseparable bachelors, the inseparable **Paul Bureau** and **Dave Smartt** are working at Banc One Capital Corp., both as assistant VPs. Paul is in the process of moving with a few buddies to a ranch about 30 miles south of Dallas for the great

hunting and fishing! They send their regards to their married friends, Blane and Claudia Walter, Fred and Pam Paulmann, Ron and Julie Malloy, Tom and Leslie Burton, and Suzanne and Jeff Teeven. • The Teevens, Suzanne and Jeff, have left Boston and moved to Kansas City, MO...best wishes to both of you in your new home! • **Tom Fowler** is attending Univ. of Hartford for a PsyD. • **Ray Alvarez** "has left the building," JP Morgan that is ... he's off to Duke, fellowship in hand, heading for his MBA. • **Scott Burke** and **John Gilboy** are in law school. • **Steve Capshaw** is hopping from place to place; he's returned from Chicago to Boston and now headed for San Francisco ... put a tracking device on that guy! • **Claire Cardelia** is still singing jazz, now with her back up band, "The Studs." She can still be heard at Otto's, on the Lower East Side of NYC. • **Tony J. Ascoti** graduated from Tufts Univ. School of Medicine and started his residency in general surgery at NE Medical Center, after spending the last month of school trekking in Nepal. • **Luke Esposito** is at Emory in Atlanta working on his PhD in chemistry. • **Michele Campisi** will be doing her emergency medicine residency at Univ. of Maryland—her first choice! • Congratulations to **Angela Wehr Stevenson** on the arrival of her new baby boy, Timothy Ryan, on May 1. • Update your little black books, fellas, because **Gina Suppelsa** is engaged! It took two diamond rings, but she did it! Her wedding is planned for year-end 1998. • **Ellen Seo** and **Noah Pusey** were married June 28. Classmates in the wedding party were Aneil Joseph, Molly Kenah, Ali McDonald, Maeve O'Meara, Meghan McGrann and Jennifer Williams. • **Ali McDonald** is engaged to Todd Link and planning an Aug. '98 wedding. • **Meghan McGrann** is engaged to Christopher Lawrence and planning a June '98 wedding. • **Maria Hammond Saia** was married in Dec. '96 in Everett to Anthony Saia. Maria's former roommate, **Sharon Hand**, was one of the attendants at the wedding. Maria is working as an RN at Brigham and Women's Hospital on the thoracic surgery unit. • **Shannon Martin** is engaged to Jeff Gauthier '91 and planning a Nov. wedding. Shannon is working at BC in annual gifts in the Development Office. • **Bob Baltimore** was mar-



ried May 10! He and his new wife are living in Greensboro, NC. Bob is still working for American Power Conversion as the NA program manager for the professional services division. • **Dave Frankel** was married at the end of Aug. • **Jonas Geiger** is living in Atlanta and was recently engaged. • **Laura Iavicoli** and **Neil McDevitt** graduated from UMDNJ Medical School in May. Neil will be doing his residency in general surgery at the Medical College of Georgia; he welcomes anyone in the area to contact him since he knows no one there. Laura will be in the internal medicine program at St. Joseph's Hospital in Phoenix. • **David Nemec** and **Kristin Guttman** were married in April in Coral Gables, FL. Classmates in the wedding included Meghan McDonnell, Heather O'Donnell, Sarah McLoughlin, Tammy Marshall, Paul Moorman and Peter Classon. • **Beth Lamey** is a practicing attorney in Chicago, specializing in insurance defense for fraudulent claims. Beth is getting married to Jim Tabor, a fellow attorney, in Nov.

## 94

Alyce T. Hatem  
500 Centre Street, 1st floor  
Newton, MA 02158  
hatemal@cleo.bc.edu

After these hectic months of summer, it's extremely relaxing to sit down with some old friends and catch up with new news. • **Blandine Jean-Paul** is currently working in the advertising sales department of Madison Square Garden. She is handling corporate sponsorships for the NY Knicks, Rangers and City Hawks, the new arena football team. She was married on June 21 to Roy F. Reid. The bridal party included Michelle Verdieu-Williams '92, Dominique Verdieu '91 and Philippe Pamphile '95. Blandine says "hi" to all her old BC friends. • **Gail Weiderman** was married to John Holt in Sept. '96. **Lisa Shireen Mazaheri Clapp** and **Maria DelSignore** were in the wedding party. Gail is working for BU as a financial aid administrator and is working toward her MA in higher education administration. Coincidentally, Maria is also working at BU in the financial aid office and pursuing a master's in higher education administration. Gail and Maria

were college roommates. That's ironic. Maria and **Robert Moose Fanelli** were married on June 28. Maria's sister, Alicia '93, was maid of honor, and Gail was a bridesmaid. • **Christopher Grego** and **Kristina Torissi** were married on June 21. Groomsmen included **Alex McKenna** and **Kevin Credin**. Bridesmaids included **Christine Arrascada**, **Ann Lasotavitch**, **Shelly Pentigrass** and **Lisa Santagate**. There were a plethora of BC grads also in attendance, and the party continued until the wee hours of the morning. I received a great deal of exciting news at the wedding however, everyone will have to stay in suspense until the next issue. Sorry, but I got this in by the skin of my teeth! Best wishes and congratulations Kristina and Chris! • There was a misprint in the last issue of notes: Shelly Pentigrass, not Shelly Long, and **David Sullivan** were engaged and planned to be married in Aug. Shelly and David, thanks for understanding, and congratulations! • **Jeanne Broussard** graduated from Univ. of Alabama at Birmingham in Dec. with a master's in physical therapy. She is currently working and living in Austin, TX. • **Jennifer Lewis** is living in L.A. and is attending graduate school for urban planning. Good luck, Jennifer! • **Jennifer Wesely** is finishing her MA program at Arizona State Univ. and will be attending the justice studies PhD program in the fall. She wrote in to let everyone know that her roommate **Jennifer Ferreira** married **David Radulovic** in Aug. Jennifer, **Missy Perfetti** and **Caroline Kansky** were in the wedding party. Missy is working in sales at Dow Jones in Boston. • **Hilary McGuire** just graduated from Univ. of Washington with her MA in secondary education. She is teaching English in Seattle. **Stephanie Letersky**: if you're reading this, Hilary said she lost touch and would like to hear from you! • **Lora Gioioso** got married in Oct. '96 and moved to San Diego, CA. She and her husband, George Crouch, are having a great time in CA. Lora has opened her own business, International Scents Appeal. Thanks for keeping in touch, Lora! • I'm sure the summer months were filled with great experiences for all Class of '94 grads. Don't hesitate to send in all that information so I can include it in this column.

## 95

Megan Gurda  
725 West Brown Street #23  
Tempe, AZ 85281  
(602) 303-6747

Hope everyone had a wonderful summer. Let me fill you in on the lives of our exciting classmates. • **Lisa Patrizio** lives in Charlotte, NC where she works as a high school English teacher. I met up with her on a white water rafting trip earlier in April. She loves her job, and her students love her. • **Tanya Grosse** returned from student teaching in Glasgow, Scotland and will receive her master's degree in elementary education in May '97. She's currently working in New Jersey at a middle school as a special education teacher's assistant. • I spent the summer in Aspen, CO working as a resident advisor for the Aspen Summer Music Festival and School. Fun! Fun! Fun! • Hope all is well with everyone. I would love to receive more updates; please note the new address above. Please keep in touch!

## 96

Kristina D. Gustafson  
313 East 137th Street  
Chicago, IL 60627  
(312) 928-8043

Hello to all! To begin, I must thank the many people who wrote letters to update me on their most recent endeavors and explorations. It was great to receive all the mail, and to hear the many personal experiences of our classmates. Now on to the news. • **Ryan Harper** works for Industrial Machinery Systems in New Orleans as a sales rep. Ryan spends a great deal of time traveling in Texas, Louisiana and Latin America. • **Scott Knox** is also living in New Orleans working as a program director for New Orleans HabiCorps, which is an Americorps National Service Program. • **Holly Couture** wrote in that she is now located in Atlanta, pursuing her master's in public health at Emory Univ. • **Gina Barbieri** is living her dream in the communications field as host of a morning show, "The Mountain Report," for a TV station in Killington, VT. Gina also hosts another show, "The Snow Show," which airs in Hartford and Albany. • **Kristen Peters** has re-

cently been accepted into a PhD program in the School of Psychology at Fordham Univ. • **Mary Ann McLaughlin** has received a new position at Mass. General, working in labor and delivery. • Another one of our classmates who is pursuing her goals is **Elizabeth Hynes**. While Elizabeth studied at BC, she yearned to get into sports management or public relations. Elizabeth is currently working in promotions for the South Carolina Stingrays. • **Katherine Leary** wrote me an incredible letter informing me about six of her friends (a new record, keep those letters coming)! Katherine lives in Watertown, and works for Coopers and Lybrand. Katherine lives with: **Jamey Pittman**, who works for Coopers and Lybrand as well; **Tina Butler**, who works for Mullen and Co.; and **Suzie Ganhao** who works for Gillette. Katherine's former roommate, **Kathy Mullen**, is attending Temple Law School. • **Mary Beth Brennan** attends St. John's Law School. • **Jennifer Knoll** teaches in Savannah, GA. • **Tara Kuehnle** works for Prudential in Philadelphia. • **Anne Mason** is in Philadelphia as well volunteering with the JVC. • **Holly Adorno** is working in human resources at the Registry in Watertown. • **Lia Pesce** wrote an eloquent synopsis of her current situation: "After having spent more than a year traveling throughout Italy, I am now stateside, using my Italian skills while working as an opera agent's assistant at a major recording studio in New York." • **Azim Nakhoda** is working in Cleveland. • **Derrick Smith** is volunteering with Teach for America. • **Matt Stancheck** is attempting to join the P.G.A. tour in Florida. • **Marcus Williams** works in L.A. for Toyota. • **Brett Williams** is working for Price Waterhouse in Boston. • Finally, **Sarah Leonard** is working for Boston's Mayor Menino. • I realize that the majority of these announcements center around the professions of our classmates, but please keep me up to date on your insights, announcements, entertaining facts and random moments! I was home in Seattle this summer, to relax and escape from my 31 second graders! Take care!



# 97

Sabrina M. Bracco  
428 Golf Course Drive  
Leonia, NJ 07605  
(201) 585-0775

Greetings to the Class of '97! Can you believe we're out in the real world? I did some traveling through Europe this summer before returning home to start a publishing job in New Jersey. How about you? Drop me a line and let me know what you're up to—grad school, volunteer work, job hunting—whatever. I look forward to reporting your news in upcoming issues!

## EVENING COLLEGE

Jane T. Crimlisk '74  
416 Belgrade Ave. Apt. 25  
W. Roxbury, MA 02132

**Frederick Riccioli** '96 has been working with PPG Industries since Sept. '96 in the Boston and southern New England area as a sales rep. Good luck, Fred. • **John Laniff** '62 took an early retirement from NYNEX in 1994. He is a computer systems programmer/analyst, working as a contractor for the Missing Link, Inc. computer software consultants. • **William H. MacLachlan** '75 retired from MIT/Lincoln Laboratory after 32 years. He and his wife presently reside in West Dennis where they built a retirement home. Hope both of you have many years of health and happiness in retirement. • The annual senior/

alumni dinner sponsored by Father Woods, Dean of the College of Advancing Studies, was held on Tue., April 8 at Anthony's Pier 4. Many alumni and all the seniors were in attendance. **Peter DiBattista** '88, current alumni president, welcomed the seniors into the alumni and presented Fr. Woods with a check for the scholarship fund. • Enjoy the summer, and if you have any news to share, please send me a note.

## GA&S

Dean Michael A. Smyer  
McGuinn Hall 221A  
Boston College  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167  
(617) 552-3265

**Anni Baker**, history PhD '97, is a visiting assistant professor at Wheaton College. • **John Barkoulas**, economics PhD '94, has accepted a tenure-track position at Louisiana Tech Univ. • **Robert Blanks**, chemistry MS '88, is director of quality affairs at GelTex Pharmaceuticals. • **Nancy Bradbury**, English MA '77, is an associate professor at Smith College. • **Celia Costa Cabral**, economics PhD '91, published "Evaluating Debt Buybacks: What Are the Alternatives to Investment," in the 1996 *Journal of International Economics*. • **Armelle Crouzière-Ingenthron**, Romance languages and literatures MA '89, PhD '96, has a tenure-track position at Middlebury College. • **Sengul Dagdeviren**, economics MA '96, has recently begun work as an economist/specialist at the Oyak Bank in Istanbul, Turkey. • **Henry Daley, Jr.**, chemistry PhD '64, is a professor at Bridgewater State College. • **Robert Demers**, chemistry MS '65, is a professor at Massasoit Community College. • **S. Gurcan Gulen**, economics PhD '96, relocated to Houston and has accepted a one-year appointment at Univ. of Houston. • **Gerald Higgins**, Romance languages and literatures PhD '97, has a position at North Shore Community College. • **John Jayne**, chemistry PhD '91, is a senior research scientist at Aerodyne Research. • **Stephen Leone**, chemistry BS '51, MS '54, is a professor at Merrimack College. • **Ana Medeiros**, Romance languages and

literatures BA '86, PhD '94, has tenure at Kent College in Canterbury, England. • **Jonathan Mills**, theology PhD '94, has published "Why is Conservative Christianity Forbidding Marriage to Homosexual Men?" • **Nicholas Rowe**, history PhD '97, is assistant professor at Eastern Nazarene College. • **Julianne Smist**, chemistry MS '74, is associate professor of chemistry at Springfield College. • **Jeffrey Stahley**, Romance languages and literatures PhD '97, is assistant visiting professor at Washington and Jefferson College. • **Daniel G. Swaine**, economics PhD '89, has become a policy analyst for the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. • **Marta Walliser**, Romance languages and literatures MA '88, PhD '96, has a tenure-track position at Marquette in Madrid, Spain. • **Jack Warner, Jr.**, history MA '91, PhD '97, is archivist of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. • **Danny White**, chemistry PhD '68, is a professor at American River College.

## GSOE

Mary Walsh  
Campion Hall 313  
Boston College  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167  
(617) 552-4241

## GSOM

Lesley Fox Denny '91  
11 Tumelty Road  
Peabody, MA 01960  
(617) 693-9913  
Lesley\_Denny@iris.com

To start off this quarter's notes, I wanted to let you know I've switched jobs again. I am now working for Iris Associates as a software quality engineer. Iris developed Lotus Notes and still does all the development and most of the quality on Notes. • **David April** '74 has been inducted into the 1997 edition of *International Who's Who of Professionals* which recognizes executives for their outstanding professional and civic achievements. • **Karin McCarthy** '92 is working as chief operating officer for Mass. One-Stop Career Centers. She says that it is an incredibly exciting and demanding position. Essentially, they are re-inventing government, or at least the employment, training and education sectors of state government.

She has been there for two years, and is delighted that she struggled through so many finance classes at grad school because they have come in very handy! On the personal front, she became engaged to Gordon Douglas Doug Atkinson, III in March, and they are getting married Sept. 1. They met on the job! They will be living in Marblehead. She would like to say "hi" to all her classmates. She sees John riding his bike to work in Downtown Crossing on occasion, and has run into Aiden and Mike, but is amazed that she doesn't see more folks. You can reach Karen via her e-mail address at <K a r i n \_ M c C a r t h y \_ @ C C O f f i c e . M a s s c a r e e r s . s t a t e . m a . u s > . • **Lilia Lau** '88 has been granted the Cochran Fellowship by the USDA to pursue a three-week training program in the US. She attended St. Joseph's Univ. in Philadelphia in April; and from May 3-7, she attended the Food Marketing Institute Show in Chicago. She hopes to hear from all of us if we come by Panama. Her e-mail address is: romero@chiriqui.com. • **Margaret C. Lemler** '93 has recently founded Advanced Management Solutions, a consulting company specializing in the health care industry. She would love to hear from BC alumni to renew old friendships and discuss potential business opportunities. She can be reached at (617) 344-6465, or e-mail mccarr@msn.com. • **Jennifer Pline** '87 and husband Hans Oettgen had a baby girl, Charlotte Elisabeth, on March 14. She joins sister Hannah, who is 2. Jennifer is a VP and portfolio manager at Standish, Ayer & Wood, an investment management firm in Boston. • **Michael J. Sleece** '95 was recently promoted to VP in the commercial real estate department at Fleet National Bank, and is based in Boston. • **Andrew Ting** is working for his family business in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He got married in Nov. '96, and went on a safari in Kenya for his honeymoon. He says business is coming along OK and lots of things are happening at this moment in his country. His e-mail is: saofr019@nuteccnet.com.br. • Thanks for the notes for this issue. Please send new updates to me at the new e-mail address above.

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently moved, changed jobs or gotten married? Call us to update your record so we can keep you up-to-date on friends, classmates and BC happenings. You can call (617) 552-3440 to change your record by phone, fax (617) 552-0077, e-mail infoserv@bc.edu, or drop a postcard to Boston College Information Services, More Hall 220, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.



## GSON

Ellen A. Robidoux  
Cushing Hall 202H  
Boston College  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167  
(617) 552-4928

## GSSW

Sr. Joanne Westwater, RGS, '55  
57 Avalon Ave.  
Quincy, MA 02169  
(617) 328-5053

Congratulations to **Elisabeth Zweig**, MSW, MSP '77 on an illustrious professional career. On July 29, 1996, Elisabeth assumed her new role as director of Catholic Charities Greater Boston office, the agency's largest community center. At the time of her appointment, Catholic Charities president, Dr. Joseph Doolin, praised Elisabeth as an "indefatigable leader" who brings a "multiplicity of experiences and insights to Greater Boston Catholic Charities, none of the least of which is a special sensitivity to the needs of minorities and newcomers to the Greater Boston area." Prior to this appointment, Elisabeth had a remarkable 19 year career at El Centro del Cardenal, Catholic Charity's community-based center for Hispanic outreach, serving as its director since 1989. She started at the agency as assistant director in 1977, upon graduation from BC Graduate School of Social Work. In addition to this work, Elisabeth has been active in a variety of local and national organizations. She is co-founder of the Agencias Latinas Unidas, Inc., a

statewide group of community based organizations serving the Latino community. She is also one of the founders of the first LULAC Chapter in Boston (League of United Latin American Citizens), a nation-wide group concerned with issues of education and civic participation of Latinos at the local and national levels. In the past, Elisabeth has been a member of: the national board of directors of the Association for Community Based Education, Oficina Hispana de la Comunidad, The Neighborhood Health Plan, The American Red Cross, The Minority Initiatives Task Force of the National American Red Cross, The MA Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition, and The MA State Senate Hispanic Task Force. She is currently a member of the following boards: The Visiting Nurses' Association of Boston, Project Bread - The Walk for Hunger, El Centro del Cardenal Advisory Board, The Boston AIDS Coalition and the Foundation for Racial, Ethnic and Religious Harmony. • We were sorry to learn of the following deaths last year: **Marianne McGuire Moran** '51, **Jennings Duggan** '75 and **Susan H. Davis** '79.

## LAW

Director of Communications  
Boston College Law School  
885 Centre Street  
Newton, MA 02159

**Thomas J. Owens** '86 opened his law practice in Seattle, WA, focusing on employment cases as well as commercial and general civic litigation. He was previously with Lane, Powell, Spears & Lubersky LLP in Seattle. • **Jon Biasetti** '87 has been elected an equity partner at Lord, Bissell & Brook. He practices in Chicago in the firm's insurance regulatory and general corporate department. • **Eduardo Cosio** '87 has been elected president of the Cuban American Bar Assoc. He is also on the executive committee of the Dade County Bar Assoc. in the Miami area, where he is a partner with the Chicago firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson. • **Anne M. Falvey** '87 has been named partner in the New York law office of Kelley Drye and is a member of the firm's project finance and infrastructure group. • **William A. Hazel** '87 has joined the Boston law firm of Chu, Ring & Associates as a tax partner. Most

recently, he was acting general counsel and first deputy commissioner at the Mass. Department of Revenue. • **Melissa Raphan** '87 is now practicing in the employment law group at Dorsey & Whitney LLP in Minneapolis. She was formerly with the firm of Oppenheimer, Wolff & Donnelly. • **Jon R. Roellke** '87 has been named partner in the law firm of Howrey & Simon, practicing in Washington, DC. • **Valerie L. Andrews** '88 has been named partner at Hill & Barlow in Boston. She joined the firm in 1988 and is a member of the corporate department. • **Jennie L. Pettit** '88, with the New York firm of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & McRae LLP, was recently re-elected to the board of directors of the American Judicature Society, a national organization that promotes improvements in the courts. • **Mark C. Rouvalis** '88 has become a director of the law firm of McLane, Graf, Raulerson & Middleton in Manchester, NH. • **Garland H. Stillwell** '88 of Fossett & Brugger in Maryland, will serve as president of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Assoc. during 1997, the group's 20th-anniversary year. • **Denise Parent** '89 has been elected VP and deputy general counsel of LIN Television Corp. in Providence, RI. She was previously senior corporate counsel at Providence Journal Corp. • **Jamil Zouaoui** '89 has joined the Washington, DC office of Morrison & Heckler LLP as of counsel. He is currently developing a practice manual on litigating international business and commercial claims in US courts. • **Jared W. Huffman** '90 was elected president of the board of directors of the Marin Municipal Water District for 1997. He is a partner in the San Rafael, CA law firm Legal Solutions Group LLP. • **Vincent M. Lichtenberger** '90 has joined Vedder, Price, Kaufman & Kammholz as an associate in the corporate practice area/securities practice group in its Chicago office. Most recently, he was senior counsel for the Securities and Exchange Commission. • **Raul E. Martinez** '90 has joined the plaintiff's personal injury group of the law firm of Chamberlain, D'Amanda, Oppenheimer & Greenfield in Rochester, NY. • **Rosemary E. Mullaly** '90 has become a partner in the Doylestown, PA office of Sweet, Stevens, Tucker & Katz LLP. She has served for the past two years as chair of legal services for exceptional children committee of the Penn. Bar Assoc. She is also co-chair of the municipal school law section of the Bucks County Bar Assoc. • **Heidi J.**

**Schenk** '90 practices commercial litigation and medical malpractice defense with the firm of Hallenbeck, Lascell, Norris & Zorn LLP in Rochester, NY. • **Ileta A. Sumner** '90, an attorney with Bexar County Legal Aid in San Antonio, TX, was elected to the board of directors of both the Bexar County Women's Bar Assoc. and Texas Women Lawyers. She has also been named recording secretary of the San Antonio Black Lawyers Assoc. • **Rory A. Valas** '91 has joined the litigation group at Hinckley, Allen & Snyder in Boston. He was previously an associate with the Boston firm of Sally & Fitch. • **Anthony E. Varona** '92 has received an LLM degree in constitutional law from Georgetown Univ. He has joined the Washington, DC office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP as senior associate. He was previously with the Washington, DC office of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky & Popeo, PC. He serves as lead pro bono counsel to the Human Rights Campaign, a national gay and lesbian civil rights organization. • **Mark T. Benedict** '93 has been named an associate in the financial/real estate transactions department at Husch & Eppenger in St. Louis, MO. • **W. Brett Davis** '93 has joined Eastern Enterprises in Weston as corporate counsel. He was most recently a corporate associate with Hutchins, Wheeler & Dittmar, PC in Boston. • **Justin G. Maiona** '93 is practicing family law at Maiona & Maiona, PC in Boston, where he manages the firm with his brothers. • **Andy Navarrete** '93 has joined the Washington, DC office of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP in the business and finance practice. • **Keith C. Ryan** '95 graduated from the Border Patrol Training Academy in Glynco, GA after completing an 18-week course. He was assigned to the San Diego Border Patrol Sector in 1996. • **Seth A. Berry** '96 is a member of the corporate practice group in Hinckley, Allen & Snyder's Providence, RI law office. He was a summer associate for the firm in 1995. • **Christopher Lee Blake** '96 has opened a law office in Jamaica Plain, with emphasis in the representation of individuals in administrative and trial proceedings. • **Craig J. Coffey** '96 has joined the Providence, RI firm of Adler, Pollock & Sheehan. • **Kate E. Moriarty** '96 has been named an associate in the Cincinnati, OH office of Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

## KEEP IN TOUCH

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## DEATHS

Patrick J. Donovan '16, West Falmouth, 1/31/97  
 Frederick A. Tobin, Esq. '24, Ocean Bluff, 2/10/97  
 James F. Walsh '27, Dedham, 1/3/97  
 Timothy F. P. Lyons, MD '27, Milton, 1/3/97  
 Edward J. Conley, Esq. '28, Cambridge, 12/12/96  
 Eugene J. Plociennik '28, GA&S '29, Pittsburgh, PA, 1/4/97  
 Herbert J. Ott, DMD '28, Boston, 2/23/97  
 Rev. Thomas D. Manning, OMI '31, Everett, 2/8/97  
 Daniel J. Larkin '32, Harwich, 2/6/97  
 Cornelius J. Sullivan, Esq. '33, GA&S '45, Milton, 1/25/97  
 Emil A. Roy '33, Crystal River, FL, 1/5/97  
 John H. Brougham '33, Brighton, 4/14/96  
 William L. Dunne '33, Harwich, 3/5/97  
 Stephen J. Hansbury '34, Rockport, 2/16/97  
 Arthur J. Lynch '35, GA&S '62, Plymouth, 2/25/97  
 Charles L. McCarthy '35, Canton, 3/12/97  
 Richard J. Cuniff '35, Falls Church, VA, 2/26/97  
 Francis J. Kilgrew GA&S '36, Somerset, 6/26/95  
 Francis T. Butters '37, Falls Church, VA, 11/9/96  
 John W. Keefe '37, Rockport, 10/5/96  
 Francis G. Fallon '38, Fountain Valley, CA, 1/26/97  
 John J. McSweeney, Jr. '38, New Port Richey, FL, 11/9/96  
 James E. Powers, SJ '39, GA&S '40, Weston, 1/17/97  
 John J. Roddy, Esq. '39, LAW '48, HON '70 West Roxbury, 6/1/96  
 Robert J. Harrington '39, San Francisco, CA, 2/10/97  
 William E. McCarthy '39, West Newton, 1/16/97  
 Bradford. Martin '40, Plymouth, 2/8/97  
 David J. Lucey '40, Danvers, 2/20/97  
 Joseph P. Donovan, Jr. '40, Syracuse, NY, 12/16/96  
 Joseph F. Dwyer '41, GA&S '48, Stratford, CT, 2/13/97

Paul A. Jennings '41, Arlington, 6/7/96  
 William J. Gallagher '43, GA&S '54, Lowell, 1/7/97  
 Dr. Charles W. Buckley '44, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 3/11/97  
 Gerard B. Mullin '44, West Hartford, CT, 1/3/97  
 Stephen A. Manning '44, Hudson, 2/24/97  
 Ernest H. Damon, MD, Jr. '45, Wayland, 1/31/97  
 Vincent J. Martucci '45, Beverly, 5/21/96  
 William J. Shinney '45, Reading, 1/9/96  
 Vincent T. Cox '47, Andover, 1/18/97  
 Francis T. Walsh '49, GA&S '54, Everett, 4/2/95  
 Neil F. Maclellan '49, Westwood, 3/9/97  
 Paul G. Kelleher '49, Summit, NJ, 1/1/97  
 Thomas G. Lynch '51, Brighton, 12/22/96  
 Donald J. Coolidge '50, Wilmington, 1/24/96  
 John J. Madden, Jr. '50, Somerville, 1/4/97  
 Sr. Mary Wilhemine Harney, CSJ GA&S '50, Framingham, 3/2/97  
 Coleman F. Clougherty, Esq. LAW '51, Clifton, NJ, 3/7/97  
 John J. Deely, Esq. LAW '51, Boston, 2/8/97  
 Vincent A. Harrington, Esq. LAW '51, Quincy, 3/8/97  
 Walter D. Raleigh, Esq. LAW '51, Chicopee, 1/4/97  
 Alge P. Mitkus '52, GA&S '55, South Boston, 3/2/97  
 Donald J. Barnes '52, Lexington, 2/15/97  
 Charles E. Colbert, Esq. LAW '52, South Yarmouth, 1/5/97  
 Eileen F. Lovett '52, Randolph, 9/16/96  
 Rev. Joseph C. Wilson '52, West Roxbury, 2/17/97  
 Joseph J. Pellegrino '52, Arlington, 9/9/96  
 Robert E. Ahern '52, GA&S '63, Milton, 3/13/97  
 John R. Allan GA&S '53, Cedar Rapids, IA, 1/7/97  
 William P. Kenny '53, Norwood, 3/11/97  
 David C. McSorley '53, Milton, 7/1/96  
 Henry A. Vadnais, Jr. GA&S '53, Hyattsville, MD, 12/26/96

Arthur A. Wholley, Jr. '53, Charlotte, NC, 2/4/97  
 Francis D. O'Leary '54, West Hills, CA, 12/21/96  
 Francis X. Kneizys '54, GA&S '60, Burlington, 2/16/97  
 William H. Grant '54, East Harwich, 3/9/97  
 John J. Murry '56, Columbia, MD, 4/26/96  
 Michael A. Ciccarelli '56, Panama City, FL, 12/1/96  
 Rev. John J. McCarthy, SJ GA&S '56, Bronx, NY, 2/9/97  
 Ruthanne Calkins Teschke '56, Overgaard, AZ, 11/15/96  
 Dorothy Zaia Demers GA&S '57, Springfield, VA, 9/26/96  
 Edward J. Lynch, Esq. '57, Washington, DC, 9/9/95  
 Anne Reynolds Skehan '57, York, PA, 11/28/96  
 Helen Gallagher Whitman '57, New Bedford, 11/1/95  
 John P. Frizzell '57, Marshfield, 1/14/97  
 William J. Dudley '57, Salem, NH, 1/20/97  
 Dr. Joseph H. Goff, EDD '58, Mission, TX, 12/10/96  
 Ruth P. Boetteher, RN '58, North Branford, CT, 11/24/96  
 George J. Mancini '59, CGSOM '70, Richmond, VA, 1/18/97  
 John H. Dempsey '59, Winchester, 1/10/97  
 Sr. Mary Audrey Finan, SND GA&S '59, Ipswich, 2/25/97  
 Nancy Atkinson Howe '59, Lynnfield, 12/21/96  
 Margaret L. Cotter '61, Osterville, 1/25/97  
 Walter F. Henneberry, Jr. '61, Framingham, 3/9/97  
 Edward J. Parry, Esq. LAW '61, North Attleboro, 9/02/96  
 John L. Sliney, Esq. LAW '62, Oakland, CA, 3/3/97  
 S. Peter Tassinari GA&S '62, Arlington, 01/24/97  
 Richard F. Goulart, Sr. CGSOM '63, Arlington, 12/11/95  
 Ronald B. Kwasnik '63, Fairfield, CT, 5/23/96  
 Leonard J. Dipasquale '64, Marshfield, 12/28/96  
 Paula M. Vrba '66, Chicago, IL, 12/15/96  
 Joseph D. Harvey '67, Winthrop, 8/17/96  
 Ruth Killion Sergi '67, Laguna Niguel, CA, 1/2/97

Donna Gurczak Whelan '68, Newburyport, 4/6/95  
 Robert C. Mahoney '68, Stoneham, 12/12/95  
 Paul V. Kenney CGSOM '69, Waban, 1/3/97  
 Michael A. Yaffa, Esq. GA&S '69, Spring Valley, CA, 11/22/95  
 Kristen Diethelm Ottmar GA&S '72, Middleboro, 7/8/96  
 Michael F. Hart '74, Pennington, NJ, 1/23/97  
 Clark S. Petrell '75, Basking Ridge, NJ, 7/30/95  
 Dorothy R. O'Connell '75, San Francisco, CA, 12/7/95  
 Martin Collymore '75, Natick, 2/15/97  
 Robert R. Cyr '75, Arlington, 1/18/96  
 Joseph F. Miele, MD '77, Sudbury, 6/13/95  
 Robert L. Wing '81, Brookline, 3/8/97  
 William A. Aviles '84, Puerto Nuevo, PR, 5/31/96  
 Carol A. Sullivan, PhD GA&S '86, West Roxbury, 10/3/96



# BOSTON COLLEGE REGIONAL ALUMNI CLUBS

## ARIZONA

Martin S. Ridge '67  
3117 West Meadow Drive  
Phoenix, AZ 85023  
Home: 602-942-1303

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Harry Hirshorn '89  
884 Chautauqua Blvd.  
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272  
BC Business: 310-288-3677

### Northern California/San Francisco

Gail A. Dutcher '78  
225 San Antonio Way  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598  
Work: 415-616-3271

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John F. Sullivan '50  
Two Byron Close  
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677  
Home: 714-240-1820

### San Diego

John L. Frasca '83  
13161 Black Mountain Road, Ste. 9  
San Diego, CA 92129  
BC Business: 619-752-6363

## COLORADO

Robert F.X. Hart '60, GSSW '62  
2801 East 7th St. Avenue Parkway  
Denver, CO 80206  
Home: 303-329-6939

## CONNECTICUT

### Hartford

Marco Pace '93  
12 Angela Drive  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
Home: 860-257-8432  
Work: 860-636-7205

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Carrie McKee McNamara '88  
1809 Kenwood Ave. #301  
Alexandria, VA 22303  
Home: 703-578-0714  
Work: 703-748-2784

## FLORIDA

### Boca Raton

Janet Cornella '70  
12338 Old Country Road  
Wellington, FL 33414  
Home: 407-793-2615  
Work: 407-793-1017

### Miami

Marietta Galindez '95  
1701 SW 104 Avenue  
Miami, FL 33165  
Home: 305-223-8046

Domingo Moreira '95  
610 Arvida Parkway  
Coral Gables, FL 33156  
Work: 305-663-4380

## Orlando

Christine M. Pongonis '79  
318 Dempsey Way  
Orlando, FL 32835  
Home: 407-291-8805  
Work: 407-299-6050

## Southwest Florida

Christopher K. Heaslip '86  
5271 Berkeley Drive  
Naples, FL 33962-5472  
Home: 941-793-8015  
Work: 941-649-3245

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David P. Salter '72  
2085 Roswell Road NE, Unit #724  
Marietta, GA 30060  
Home: 707-973-7563  
Work: 770-386-0640 x11

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Thomas D. Bransfield '89  
135 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 2118  
Chicago, IL 60603-4484  
Wirjs: 312-236-5907

## INDIANA

Stephen E. Ferrucci '87 LAW '90  
7156 Derston Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46250  
Home: 317-577-9714  
Work: 317-684-6161

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Eileen O'Connell Unitas '81  
3808 Saint Paul Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
Home: 410-889-3300

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31 Linda Lane  
Hyannis, MA 02601  
Home: 508-771-1605

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65 Ridgecrest Circle  
Westfield, MA 01085-4525  
Home: 413-568-3995  
Work: 413-734-2163

### Worcester

Francis J. McGarry '61  
Tucker, Anthony, Inc.  
3070 Main Street, Suite 900  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Work: 508-791-2311

## MICHIGAN

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Paul '88 and Mary Ann '88 Deters  
6731 White Pine Court  
Bloomfield, MI 48301  
Home: 810-851-7869

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Mark '91 and Kathleen '91 Sexton  
1883 Rome Ave.  
Saint Paul, MN 55116  
Home: 612-696-1181

## MISSOURI

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James A. Zoeller '55  
13246 Bon Royal Dr.  
Des Peres, MO 63131  
Home: 314-966-0269  
Work: 314-771-4307

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7 Gage Road  
Bedford, NH 03110  
Home: 603-472-5342

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Brian P. Curry '71  
17 Joanna Way  
Summit, NJ 07901  
Work: 908-658-3500

Christina Cusanno Mangano '88  
48 Downing Place  
Harrington Park, NJ 07640

## NEW YORK

### Albany

Peter G. Crummey, Esq. '78  
90 State Street, Suite 1040  
Albany, NY 12207  
Home: 518-463-5065  
Work: 518-426-9648

### New York City

Francis X. Astorino '83  
33 Park Lane  
Essex Fells, NJ 07021  
BC Business: 800-669-8432

### Rochester

Richard J. Evans '83  
201 Rutgers Street  
Rochester, NY 14607  
Home: 716-473-2954  
Work: 716-454-2321

### Syracuse

John J. Petosa '87  
201 Wey Bridge Terrace  
Camillus, NY 13031  
Home: 315-487-6440  
Work: 315-488-4411/4311

## NORTH CAROLINA

Brian Mahoney '92  
507 E. Rosemary Street, Unit #3  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
Home: 919-942-3525

## OHIO

### Cincinnati

Francis A. Cruise '54  
TravelPlex, Grand Baldwin  
117 East Court Street

Cincinnati, OH 45202  
Home: 513-891-9534  
Work: 513-241-7800

### Central Ohio

Sara Ann Browning '86  
1391-D Waveland Drive  
Gahanna, OH 43230  
Home: 614-229-7979

John Deleo '86  
2104 Harwitch Road  
Columbus, OH 43221  
Home: 614-486-3874  
Work: 614-717-7549

### Cleveland

Denis Dunn '88  
2181 Niagara Drive  
Lakewood, OH 44107

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Philadelphia

Augustine J. Kidwell '87  
6558 Saw Mill Road  
New Hope, PA 18938  
Home: 215-297-8642  
Work: 212-622-0322

### Western Pennsylvania

Brian and Suzi Walters '92  
400 Avon Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
Home: 412-343-6564

## RHODE ISLAND

David P. Difillipo '87  
Italia USA  
300 Morgan Avenue  
Johnston, RI 02919  
Home: 401-353-9676  
Work: 401-946-1881

## TEXAS

### Dallas

Timothy B. Rhatican, Esq. '74  
1613 Throwbridge Lane  
Plano, TX 75023  
Home: 214-596-2571  
Work: 214-931-8236

## WASHINGTON

### Seattle

Thomas M. Lally '73  
University of Washington Alumni Association  
1415 NE 45th Street  
Seattle, WA 98105  
Home: 206-328-2933  
Work: 206-543-0540

## WISCONSIN

### Milwaukee

Andrew G. Docktor '86  
6760 N. Yates Road  
Milwaukee, WI 53217  
Home: 414-223-4843  
Work: 414-645-2122



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back corner of the ground floor. This morning, whenever one of Harris's court officers cracks the door to admit someone new, the clamor of lawyer-client buzzing and children's cries washes in from the adjacent waiting room.

Harris's cases fall into one of three categories: care and protection cases (in legal parlance, C and P), in which children up to age 18 require the state's intervention to safeguard their mental and physical health; CHINS cases (children in need of services) like Rochelle's, which concern stubborn or truant or runaway youngsters; and delinquency cases such as Liza's, juveniles from seven to 17 years old who have committed acts—from shoplifting to murder—that would be criminal if the person were an adult. The day's first C-and-P concerns a six-year-old boy who has been hospitalized with severe respiratory problems and is straining his foster parents' ability to care for him adequately. The boy's birth mother, who has never once visited her son in the hospital, has disappeared. Should the judge remove the boy from his current home and try to find a better foster-home fit? Harris's objective is always the same, but how best to implement that goal defies ready solutions. He always favors the preservation of a family, even a flawed family, if that is feasible. The boy's case is delayed several weeks until a comprehensive medical report can be obtained.

Next a uniformed court officer enters the courtroom with a bundled infant named Tina, three or four months old, a whispery swirl of chestnut hair on her head. This is another C and P. The baby's mother is a 16-year-old prostitute who has made herself scarce since her daughter's birth. ("I have no idea where she is, Your Honor. I have had no contact with her," testifies the mother's lawyer.) Tina has been placed temporarily in a foster home. Today Harris must decide whether or not that home can supply the environment this baby girl needs. Harris has made a mantra of his belief that young people need protection from adults and not, as the depiction of juvenile crimes in the mass media might suggest, the other way around.

"Give me the baby," orders the judge, holding out his arms. Harris beams as he cradles Tina against his black-robed shoulder and pats her on the back. "The ruling of the court is final," he pronounces. "This baby belongs to Harris." (The hardest part about his job, the judge says later, "is I see so many kids I'd love to take home.") He holds the baby forward, looking her in the eye and talk-

ing about the clear and brilliant days ahead of her. "Would you like to go to Boston College Law School?" he coos, as he chucks her under the chin. "How about Northwestern University? You'd like that, it's right on the lake."

A few minutes later, after ruling that a social worker's evaluation of the child's foster placement will be needed before he can decide on permanent custody, he hands the baby back to the court officer. "She may need changing," the judge says with a frown. Then he adds wryly, under his breath, "It is a finding of the court."

## WHEN TO GET PREGNANT

The judge straddles worlds. He knows alcoholism because his day-laborer father was a serious drinker; "By today's standards he would be considered an alcoholic," Harris says. Alcohol ultimately claimed the life of a younger brother. Harris knows street violence and drugs and family disintegration because they surrounded him in the projects. "There was not much killing in our neighborhood, but you might get cut," says the judge's older brother, Samuel, a retired Chicago policeman. In the courtroom, Leslie Harris draws on that history every day. Ninety percent of his job, he says, requires looking people in the eyes, and guessing what they might do next. The remaining 10 percent calls for book learning.

Raw-boned, obdurate Miranda is a 15-year-old black girl who, according to her own statements to friends and family, wants to get pregnant. Miranda's is a CHINS case. Her appearance in court today has been prompted by her violation of a court-ordered curfew. "Where were you?" Harris asks her about a night last week when she stayed out late. "At a friend's house," Miranda answers vaguely, arms folded. "She is trying, Your Honor," says the social worker, seated at a table in front of the judge's bench. "She is trying, Your Honor," echoes Miranda's mother, a diminutive woman in a gray business suit, from the front row of the gallery.

Harris ignores them and gazes straight at Miranda. "You do not want to get pregnant, young lady," he says. "You are not in a position to take care of a child. You're too young. How are you gonna support it? You can't get a job." Miranda interrupts to say a man at the dry cleaners has offered her a job.

"OK, let's look at that," Harris counters. "What can you make? Five, six dollars an hour. Let's be generous and say six. That's 40 hours times six, \$240. That's before taxes. Let's say Uncle Sam





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takes \$60 of that. That leaves \$180. Do you have any idea what Pampers cost? That's right, about \$13. And that'll last you three or four days. How about rent? You can't afford to live anywhere by yourself on \$180 a week. So you'll end up living with your mother and making your mother deal with that baby. And that's not fair.

"What if you get sick? What will you do then? You don't want to be having a baby at 15 years old. Don't you have no baby. You wait on that. Get your schooling first. Wait until you're in your twenties. Wait until you're 28. Perfect time to have a baby—or 30, even better. You can go to college or go to law school if you want. You like to argue, to sound off and have your opinions. [Miranda has previously been cited for contempt of court for her outbursts.] Law school is the perfect place for that." Miranda protests that she doesn't want to be a lawyer. "OK, then, a veterinarian. You told me that before and I apologize for forgetting it. You can argue with the puppies then. But don't let yourself get pregnant. Not now. Not yet."

Miranda departs moments later, apparently

unfazed. Did any part of the judge's message sink in? Harris has heard from a few youngsters who stumbled through his court only to find themselves healthy and whole on the other side, and who wrote to tell him so. But many more flare, then fade from the screen. Does the frustration of these cases cling to Harris once he's taken off his judicial robe and gone home? "To the point where I can't sleep at night sometimes," he concedes.

Action is the salve. Whether at work as a judge, church deacon (he has been a trustee and deacon at Roxbury's Eliot Congregational Church since 1977) or civic board member (he serves on the board of the Museum of Afro-American History, among many other organizations), Harris forges a powerful congruence. "It's all about building community," he says. Harris and his schoolteacher wife, Beverly, have made their home in Roxbury, and, despite the scare of a gang shooting that narrowly missed Beverly a year or so ago just a block from their house, they intend to stay. "I like Roxbury," explains the judge. "Roxbury is the suburbs compared to where I grew up. To have a house and a





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yard—that's really pretty nice. Plus, I believe that as a judge I have to live in the same community as the people whose lives I am making decisions about. I don't ever want to feel that I'm better than the people who come before me."

The Harris residence has been home to a regular parade of children over the years. In addition to their two biological sons, Jason, 16, and Brian, 14, the Harrises have served as parents to roughly a dozen youngsters—a few related to them by blood but most of them not. "I don't know how many," Beverly Harris says when pressed for a definitive number. "They've been overlapping at times."

"For longer periods, longer than a year, I'd say about four," suggests the judge. "For shorter periods, about eight." The first, Marjorie, legally adopted by the Harrises at age 16, entered college when the judge started BC Law. Jason was born during Harris's first year there; Brian two years later. "This," the judge notes with a broad, slowly breaking smile, "is not the way to do law school." Forget ideal conditions, Harris's whole life seems to say. This is where we are.

"All parties step out!" cries the bailiff at the conclusion of each case, flinging the courtroom door wide open. Half a minute later, a new bunch of combatants arrives, the lawyers trudging in first with their overstuffed briefcases. They sit at long tables aligned directly beneath the Mount Rushmore of the judge's bench. For a typical C and P, four lawyers will be present: one representing the Department of Social Services and one each for the mother, the father and the child.

These lawyers, mostly court appointed and at the bottom of the legal pay scale, form an intimate clan, with many of the same faces showing up in different combinations over the course of the day. Equally divided between men and women, they work hard and often fervently in court. "Some of them, they come in and fall in love with the job, because they can make a difference in so many lives," Harris observes. These lawyers frequently burn out trying. Still, their thick-soled shoes and hopeful expressions lend juvenile court its distinctive atmosphere of tenderness and steel.

*continued next page*



## AN EERIE OPTIMIST

Julie, 12, has a truancy problem. Big for her age, Hispanic, with a trace of a swagger in her walk, the ponytailed Julie has made it to school just five days in the past month. Instead, she has been spending time with Marcos, her 21-year-old boyfriend. Through a court interpreter, Harris advises Julie's mother that the girl must attend school. "I try," the woman responds helplessly, "but she won't get out of bed."

"You've got to see that she goes to school," repeats the judge, before turning to Julie and demanding to know, under oath, if her involvement with Marcos has been sexual. Almost inaudibly, Julie says no. Harris demands that the boyfriend be summoned to appear before him in two weeks to straighten this mess out.

Harris then threatens to order Julie removed from her mother's home this afternoon and taken into custody by the Department of Youth Services. This is his trump card. A child committed to DYS will enter a lockup facility in the Boston area and live a highly regimented life apart from his or her family for a period of months or years. "I don't want to lose her," Julie's mother sobs in Spanish, wringing her hands. Harris lets the misery go for a beat or two. Then he relents: Julie can remain at home, but only if she attends school every day until the next hearing, in two weeks. As they exit the courtroom, the mother looks shaken; the daughter cool, unruffled.

Harris is clearly alarmed. "If she were 16, I'd say that's her business," he comments once the courtroom has emptied. "But 12 years old, and she and the boyfriend have been together for a year already—that's totally inappropriate. And the mother knows all this and lets it happen." Harris rolls his eyes, exasperated. "The 12-year-old is in charge in that family," he observes. "Did you see the way she sat back, with her legs crossed? That's the oldest 12-year-old I've seen in a while. When she told her mom where to sit, it was not, 'Mom, would you come over and sit beside me?' It was, 'Mom, sit *here*.'"

Being observant comes naturally to Harris, whose father worked for a while as a window glazier and, declining to use a tape measure, relied on his precise vision to mark off the sections of glass to be cut. As Harris tells it, one time a customer had a kidney-shaped coffee table requiring a large, irregular piece of glass to be sized and fitted into a frame. Harris's father took one look at the

shape, turned aside to study the virgin sheet of glass, and cut it perfectly on the spot.

The judge has a lengthy break before his next case, and he heads next door to wait. His chambers, which he shares with another judge, are nothing much. There is a desk neatly stacked with papers, a few chairs, some personal clippings taped to the wall (including a poem written by his son Brian, dedicated to the memory of Martin Luther King, Jr., which begins:

The fear is in her eyes,  
People yelling at her with racial slurs,  
With tears in her eyes and spit on her face,  
She doesn't run away . . .

In the corner is a hook for the judge's robe ("I have to be careful," he says in his softly rounded, edge-of-a-chuckle voice, "not to be too powerful when I put on that little dress.")

Seated at his desk, Harris makes a dapper impression. His shirt cuffs are crisp and white; he radiates a faint scent of cologne; two silver studs gleam from his left ear. Harris shakes his head and exclaims at intervals as he proceeds. (An occasional "wif" in place of "with" slips into his talk, evoking the judge's origins.) Here the judge may be found every weekday morning before his cases are called, reading briefs and background paperwork. "Oh, boy," he says, exhaling slowly. One case concerns a woman who swallowed bleach in a suicide attempt; another involves parents who have been arrested yet again for dealing drugs.

In Harris's view, neither drug nor alcohol use by itself should disqualify parents from being granted guardianship. "It's only if the parents let that interfere with care for the kids—like not getting them to school on a regular basis. Then it's a problem. There are drunks who can function," he says, as he continues to thumb through the stack before him. By all accounts, the judge's father was such a man, capable of staying out late at night, getting into frequent barroom scraps—a member of a Military Police unit during his army days, he could have been a professional boxer, says the judge—and dragging himself home drunk only to rise at dawn and start all over again. "That was his work ethic. He got up every day and went to work," confirms Sam Harris, the judge's brother.

Harris cuts defendants some slack on their housekeeping, too. A recent case, in which a grandmother with seven children in her care was disparaged in court for having a cockroach-infested



apartment, still perturbs him. "Hey, I grew up in the projects. We had roaches," Harris says. "Our floor was so clean you could see your reflection in it, but roaches came through from the apartments all around us, so I understand how that happens."

Despite the nature of his job—he is, in effect, a rescue worker who grabs at the sleeves of children in free fall—the judge is an eerie optimist. Nearly everything that happens to him seems to fortify his good cheer. A blizzard in northern Ohio that ruined an Easter visit home? "I was stuck in the Cleveland airport for two days, and that did not make me happy," he says, smiling.

When he was 15 years old, Harris joined a local civil-rights march in which an angry spectator threw a rock and struck a nun in the head. She didn't miss a step. Speaking at a Rotary Club luncheon in Brookline this spring, Harris offers the story as evidence of the kind of bravery that inspired him to keep striving when he was young. Later, when questioned privately about his interpretation, the judge concedes that the story could just as easily be taken another way, as proof of the nastiness loose in the world.

"I don't know," Harris shrugs when pressed for the secret of his optimism. "I just see a lot of good in people." When, between cases, a court officer refers to a surly defendant dismissively, asserting, with an emphatic toss of his head, "She's belligerent, that one," Harris demurs. "She's not belligerent; she's just stubborn," he says. The distinction is important to a man who wrangled with authority during his own adolescence. Bored, Harris skipped classes during his senior year in high school. "I got suspended a lot. I was going to be one of these high-school dropouts," he tells the Rotarians. Then an assistant principal paid a visit. "He gave me all the legal reasons for returning to school, but he also said he would whip my butt if I didn't go back, and I believed him."

In court, the judge's humane touch often catches people off guard. A flustered stepfather tries to quiet a baby in the middle of a custody hearing and heads for the door with the wailing child. "You don't have to leave," the judge calls out. "That's just a baby being a baby. Don't worry about it." A teenage boy in handcuffs, standing alone beside the judge's bench before his case gets under way, looks shocked when Harris leans down to ask him, in a chatty, neighborly tone, if the two of them have met before—perhaps at a youth-league basketball game in Roxbury, where Harris's two sons play?

A quote from G.K. Chesterton that the judge displays prominently in his chambers explains much of his attitude: "The horrible thing about all legal officials, even the best, about all judges, magistrates, barristers, detectives, and policemen, is not that they are wicked (some of them are good), not that they are stupid (some of them are quite intelligent); it is simply that they have gotten used to it. They simply do not see the prisoner in the dock; all they see is the usual man in the usual place. They do not see the awful court of judgment; they see only their own workshop."

For all his evident kindness, Harris won't tolerate disrespect or any abridgment of judicial protocol. When a garrulous lawyer speaks out of turn for the third time one morning, the judge erupts. "I'm not going to take much more from you," he says. "This isn't a classroom discussion; it's a trial." On this particular day, everyone is edgy. A steady, low roar out in the hall blends with the drone of a Spanish translator in court to make testimony almost inaudible. Harris bears the din equably for a while, then vaults down from the bench and, black robe flapping, strides through the door into the hall. "Can you keep it quiet?" he booms. "I'm trying to hold a *trial* in here!"

## JUDGMENT DAY

Donna, a 13-year-old white girl, stands at the front of the courtroom wearing army fatigues. Behind limp blond hair, her eyes defiantly flick back and forth without settling anywhere. Her mother, a heavysset woman with blue eyes set in a doughy complexion, sags onto a bench and looks blearily toward the ceiling. This is another CHINS case. After repeated truancy and curfew violations, Donna is about to hear her fate. Will she be allowed to leave the courtroom today and return home once more with her mother, or will she be taken into DYS custody and held there until she turns 18? Crackling with nervous energy, Donna can't resist muttering an instant retort to every utterance. "Oh, yeah," she snarls to the judge's opening statement. "Sure."

When Harris threatens Donna with a contempt citation, her lawyer asks for permission to confer with her client. Granted. The stocky, fiftyish woman in a dark suit walks very deliberately across to where Donna is standing, leans down and hoarsely yells next to her ear, "*Keep your mouth shut!*" The judge appears weary and grave as he reviews the



LESLIE HARRIS AT HOME IN ROXBURY WITH HIS FAMILY:  
BRIAN, 14, WIFE BEVERLY AND JASON, 16.





long record of violations and hearings in the case and then commits the girl to DYS. Donna swears under her breath. Her mother chokes out, "Oh, my God," and tilts her head back further, her eyes brimming. Later, out in the hall, Donna stands blank and uncomprehending as her lawyer tells her, "No, you are not going home today. You are going to DYS."

Back inside the courtroom moments later, Harris muses about Donna's inability to suppress her outbursts. "She's the only kid I know whose ears stop short of her head," he comments from the bench. "If I tell her, 'You say one more word, you're going to jail,' she'll say, 'But I—'" Harris laughs, but it is a sad, regretful laugh. After having seen Donna in his court five or six times and having tried all the usual threats and entreaties available to him, he has run out of options.

The next case, a delinquency matter, involves a young black man, a promising abstract painter who has been hanging with gangs. ("Is he involved with drugs?" Harris wonders aloud shortly before the lawyers sweep into the courtroom. "I don't know; he may be. He's attracted to gang life and wants to be part of that, but I don't think he has the nerve for it.") Michael, 15, has been arrested repeatedly for minor crimes and, like Donna, has reached a kind of legal impasse. Today's hearing, brought on by the boy's recent arrest for assault, will determine whether the juvenile court is fed up with trying to rehabilitate him. Slightly built, with an alert, smoothly molded face, Michael stands, hands clasped in front of him, just inside the courtroom door.

A few years ago, according to the judge, Michael's mother married a man who Michael didn't like, and fights broke out at home. The stepfather was charged with child abuse. "It took me a while to realize that the kid was picking fights with the dad to get him in trouble," Harris confides. After a long series of court appearances and stern talk and continued violations, Michael was enrolled in an after-school program called Project Turnaround. But Michael rarely bothered to show up.

Harris begins his judgment by reading aloud the most recent letter from Project Turnaround, which states that Michael has been barred from any further participation. "Has been *barred*," the judge repeats, as he peers down at the defendant. "That was the last chance," he continues. "I put you there instead of DYS. But now I have no choice." Harris glances to one side. "I hereby commit you to DYS." Keeping his cuffed hands down near his waist, Michael brings an elbow up to wipe away a tear.

"Now you get my lecture," says the judge, turning back to face the defendant. "You have talent. I've seen your artwork. You could let that talent take you anywhere you want in this world. Remember that this commitment to DYS doesn't have to be for long. You could be out as early as this summer, and I would love to see that happen. Good luck to you." A bailiff steps over and, taking Michael by the elbow, escorts him through the door. Later in the day, Harris warns another teenage boy (a shoplifter), "Don't you get arrested again. You're in juvenile court now. We try to protect you here. But when you turn 18, you'll be going to adult court, and then you'll just be a statistic. Their job is not to protect you, but to protect society."

## DRAGGED AND TWISTED

Some cases go on for hours. A C-and-P hearing to determine if a seven-year-old boy has been the victim of physical abuse and should be removed from his home consumes most of a morning with painstaking medical testimony. A young pediatrician from Beth Israel Hospital—clearly a novice at court appearances, she bites her lip and watches Harris closely for direction—makes a series of trips over to a faintly glowing light box on the courtroom wall to display and interpret X rays of the boy's damaged limbs.

Both arms and both legs show hairline fractures, but where did they come from? After listening to testimony for more than an hour, Harris poses a single question to the doctor: "Could these injuries come from the child's having been dragged across the room by a limb?" The doctor says no, they most likely came from the limbs having been twisted with great force. "The child has been injured, no question about it," Harris comments later, back in his office, "but should I take him from the mother?" None of the three other children in the family shows signs of abuse. Are the boy's fractures the result of being shaken by his mother or being punished by an older stepbrother who is known to have been abused when young or even from being tortured by some unknown bully in the neighborhood?

The Honorable Leslie Harris, as usual, has a lot on his mind.

*Bruce Morgan is this magazine's associate editor. The names of the defendants in this story have been changed to protect their privacy.*



# The operator

**THOMAS GASSON**

had no mandate to rebuild Boston College on 30 acres in Chestnut Hill. Nor did he have the cash. He just did it. The second in an inaugural-year series on some notable BC presidents

lucky. There were concerts and dancing, vaudeville, a Wild West show and fireworks. At five o'clock the festival turned solemn, with mercifully brief speeches followed by the day's climactic event. "The sod was rough from the trampling of many feet," a reporter observed, but the man whose task it was to break that ground "hesitated no more than he has at any other difficulties." He was a bit of a showman, hamming up the difficulty of the task at hand and drawing it out for dramatic effect. "He had to take off his cuffs and stop to wipe his brow several times," the reporter went on. Before long, however, "the new spade, decorated with red, white and blue and the college colors, had turned the sod and placed it in a box to be treasured by future Boston Collegians." The fate of that box of dirt is a mystery: apparently those future Boston Collegians failed to treasure

On June 19, 1909, a warm early-summer Saturday, a crowd that swelled to 30,000 gathered between noon and midnight in an open field, set on high ground overlooking Boston. Although serious business would be done before day's end, the mood that afternoon was happy-go-

lucky. There were concerts and dancing, vaudeville, a Wild West show and fireworks. At five o'clock the festival turned solemn, with mercifully brief speeches followed by the day's climactic event. "The sod was rough from the trampling of many feet," a reporter observed, but the man whose task it was to break that ground "hesitated no more than he has at any other difficulties." He was a bit of a showman, hamming up the difficulty of the task at hand and drawing it out for dramatic effect. "He had to take off his cuffs and stop to wipe his brow several times," the reporter went on. Before long, however, "the new spade, decorated with red, white and blue and the college colors, had turned the sod and placed it in a box to be treasured by future Boston Collegians." The fate of that box of dirt is a mystery: apparently those future Boston Collegians failed to treasure

it to the degree contemporaries had expected. Even so, in the history of the University there have been few turning points more noteworthy. The man with the shovel was Thomas Ignatius Gasson, SJ, the 13th president. In the 50 years before his arrival, the school had turned out a steady stream of respectable graduates, but it was always running up against limits on its crowded plot in the heart of Boston's South End, a district that seemed perpetually on the verge of becoming the city's next great neighborhood. During Gasson's presidency from 1907 to 1914, the College revamped its curriculum and moved to a promising new campus. The box of dirt may be forgotten, but after the building that went up on that spot was

BY JAMES M. O'TOOLE '72, PH.D.'87







One story told of Gasson's encounter with three door-to-door evangelical missionaries, who sought to rescue him from the errors of the Roman Church using arguments drawn only from scripture. He coolly asked them to point out "the place in scripture where it was written that no argument not found in scripture could be employed in expounding Christian teaching."

named for Gasson, his memory was assured.

Gasson took over BC's leadership at a time of great promise and challenge. On the positive side, the first decade of the new century was one of optimism for the people whom the Jesuits served in the Puritan City Upon a Hill. In politics, a young man named John F. Fitzgerald had been elected mayor in 1905, the first Boston-born Irish Catholic to lead the city. His ascendancy heralded the rise of a new generation of Catholics, born in the city they loved, tempered by past struggles but resolved to usher in better times. A generational change was under way in the Catholic Church as well: eight months after Gasson became president of Boston College, a vigorous new archbishop, William O'Connell, Class of 1881, succeeded the aged John Williams, who had led the local Church since the end of the Civil War. Broader social changes were also under way. Boston College graduates and their families were working their way up social and economic ladders, and they were moving from the crowded tenements of their birth to more comfortable homes in the city's leafier neighborhoods and in the suburbs.

But there were obstacles in Gasson's path. The College's recent history had been troubled. Its building on Harrison Avenue, adjacent to the Church of the Immaculate Conception, was showing the effects of several decades of student wear and tear, and its small plot of land presented a natural barrier to growth.

More seriously, the College's academic stand-



ing had suffered a blow in 1898, when Harvard University announced that Boston College men (there were as yet no women) would no longer be admitted to its law school as regularly matriculated students. Boston College graduates were not sufficiently advanced to be admitted to the Cambridge school even as juniors, Harvard President Charles W. Eliot sniffed, and they would therefore be required to pass a special remedial exam before admission. Open and often angry letters were exchanged across the Charles River, and an uneasy truce between the two schools was eventually achieved. BC's pride was hurt, but in fact Eliot was probably right. The traditional Jesuit curriculum was out of step with contemporary developments in American education. It blurred the distinction between secondary and advanced studies, and for most of its early years BC was really more of an elaborate high school than a college. If it was to take its rightful place among the other colleges in the area, it would have to upgrade itself both academically and physically.

Thomas Gasson applied to these challenges the advantage that outsiders often bring to moments of significant change. He had not grown up in the physically and mentally crowded world of Boston Catholicism but rather had been born in September 1859 in a village in Kent, England, about 25 miles southeast of London. His mother died when he was young, and times were hard. An older brother immigrated to the United States in search of employment, and the same course recommended itself to the 13-year-old Thomas, who landed at Philadelphia in 1872. When his brother proved unable to offer much material assistance, Thomas found lodgings with a woman named Catherine Doyle, who set him to work at odd jobs for herself and her neighbors. Among those neighbors was a convent of Notre Dame Sisters, and it was through them that Gasson, reared in the conventional Anglicanism of his native country, first encountered the Roman Catholic Church. Much was later made of the religious influence of Mrs. Doyle and the sisters—one pious story has him dutifully serving Mass as an altar boy even before his conversion—but, whatever the truth, he was baptized a Catholic at the Jesuit church in Philadelphia two years after his arrival. Foreshadowing his future, he took Ignatius as a confirmation name, and in 1875, just three years after immigrating, he entered the Jesuit novitiate in Maryland. Following the characteristically rigorous preparation of candidates for the Society, he pursued his studies in Europe and America, and he was ordained in 1891.

**From** the first, observers were struck by the ability and drive packed into Gasson's frame, and later stories of his accomplishments were always accompanied by references to his diminutive stature. Fr. Walter Meagher, SJ, the historian of Holy Cross College, once observed that "God often chooses short men to do great things. Why," he continued, "in the history of the world, there have been three great short men: St. Paul, Fr. Gasson and Doug Flutie." Whatever one makes of that particular trinity, Gasson's physical stature belied his true character. "The amount of energy that his short, stubby body contained," a fellow Jesuit wrote, "was almost unthinkable." Gasson seemed always to be operating in high gear. He walked at double time, "as though he were anxious to get to the place of labor." His mind ran at the same pace. After joining the BC faculty in the summer of 1895, Gasson taught everything from philosophy to economics to German grammar, acquiring a reputation as a preacher and public lecturer on a wide range of topics, religious and secular. One story told of his encounter with three door-to-door evangelical missionaries, who sought to rescue him from the errors of the Roman Church using arguments drawn only from scripture. Gasson coolly asked them to point out "the place in scripture where it was written that no argument not found in scripture could be employed in expounding Christian teaching."

In January 1907 Gasson was chosen to lead the College, and he came into office with big plans already in mind. At a meeting of the Alumni Association that May he made those intentions public, announcing a radical "separation of the high school and college departments," together with "a new home for the college department somewhere among the Boston suburbs, in a place not yet decided upon." A newspaper account reported that "an entirely new and larger college is planned," one in which even "eminent teachers among the laity will be secured for professors in certain branches." Although surprised, Gasson's audience was almost immediately convinced of the wisdom of his proposal. "The alumni present," the *Boston Herald* said, "signified their hearty approbation and support of the outlined plans."

Several locales for the new college campus were in the running. Real-estate agents came forward pressing the merits of Allston, Mattapan and Roxbury. For a while Gasson favored a spacious bluff in Brighton with a wide vista over the city, land that eventually became home to St. Gabriel's



Monastery and St. Elizabeth's Hospital. Fortunately, its acquisition proved impossible. Had Gasson chosen it—or any of the other three locations, for that matter—BC simply would have exchanged one crowded parochial neighborhood for another, and some future president would have had to relocate the school again for it to achieve its full potential. Gasson himself recalled in later life that he was resolved “to look to the future, not to the present” and that he would settle for no site that was on “the side-lines.”

Not far from the tempting Brighton land, he found his spot: a 30-acre parcel in Chestnut Hill, just over the line that separated Boston from Newton. The property was bordered on two sides by the extensions of Commonwealth Avenue and Beacon Street and on the other two by a scenic reservoir and what was then called South Street, later renamed College Road. The whole plot had once been a dairy farm and cherry orchard owned by the doughty abolitionist and industrialist Amos A. Lawrence. Trolley cars ran out Commonwealth Avenue, giving the school a ready accessibility from town, and the new Riverbank (today known as Riverside) line, just then being completed, could likewise assist commuting students. “It would be hard to find another spot in the East comparable” to it, one alumnus wrote Gasson, sending along a financial contribution. When the trustees authorized the purchase shortly before Christmas 1907, other words of encouragement flowed in. “You and your confreres have come into possession of one of the most desirable estates in the suburbs,” the pastor of a nearby parish told Gasson. “It is an ideal place for a college—yes, and for a university. . . . There is no more beautiful place in this part of the country.” Casting an eye across the river, this priest-alumnus added pointedly, “Cambridge may soon have to bow down to Newton.”

**Gasson** the visionary now had to give way to Gasson the planner and Gasson the administrator. The land alone cost more than \$250,000, a staggering sum at a time when the average U.S. worker earned about \$500 a year. To fund the project, Gasson chose to build a broad base of support, amassing a large number of small contributions, rather than a handful of big ones. He asked for donations of \$1 from as many people as possible. All who gave their dollar received a small certificate that acknowledged them as “presenting one square foot of land to the new Boston Col-

lege.” Stories of donations from poor and ordinary Catholics spread quickly, and Gasson himself helped disseminate the reports. “The first dollar,” he wrote at the time, “was given by Mrs. Mary Dyer, a poor widow.” He always had a widow’s-mite story ready at hand when coaxing potential benefactors. One dollar each came in from “two little girls, Esther and Mary Cunningham,” he reported. A generous woman sold off an heirloom watch and contributed the \$114 profit; another sent in \$41.27, which Gasson described (how accurately, we cannot tell) as part of her attempt to assemble “a mile of pennies.” Interestingly, almost twice as many women as men contributed to this part of the effort. It would be another several decades before women could attend Boston College themselves, but they saw it nonetheless as a means of advancement for their sons and brothers.

Next Gasson turned his attention to the buildings that would occupy the property. He visited several campuses around the country to get some idea of collegiate architecture, and he was particularly impressed with the Gothic style of the still-new University of Chicago, which counted John D. Rockefeller among its backers. Gasson wanted to build an equally impressive campus on more limited resources. Back home he set up a committee to receive and screen proposals from architects for a fully developed college complex. Fourteen firms were invited to participate, and only one—a Boston outfit that curtly told Gasson it never joined competitions unless it received a fee in advance—refused. The committee said that the dominant structure should be a “recitation building” containing at least three classrooms and three great halls seating up to 500, one “to be used for debating societies, etc.,” and another with fixed benches “after the manner of a senate chamber.” Later would come two science buildings, a library capable of accommodating 200,000 volumes, a church, and athletic fields and structures. The construction of the new campus must be solid—at least “as good as in the Charlestown High School,” the committee decreed—and there were to be





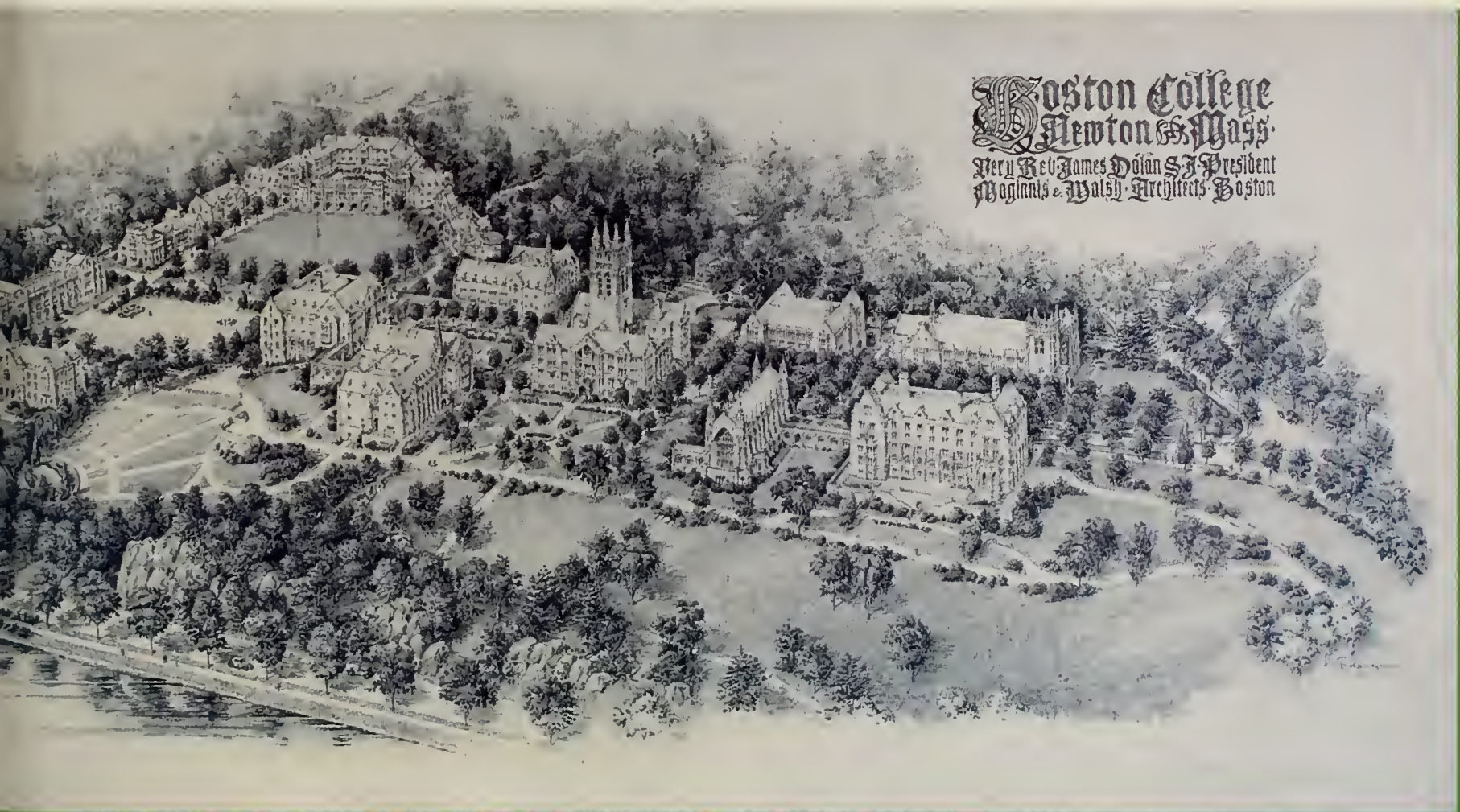
no boundary walls or fences around the property.

The easy winner of the competition was a design for a magnificent complex of English Gothic buildings, but the judges were surprised when they opened the anonymous bids and identified their designers. From the look of the drawings, the committee members simply assumed that they had been submitted by Ralph Adams Cram, an architect whose Anglo-Catholic sentiments had made him the foremost medievalist of his time. Instead, the vision was that of a newly formed local firm named Maginnis and Walsh. The firm's young principal, Charles Donagh Maginnis, recalled later that he had submitted the design with trepidation because "Gothic was not in the Jesuit tradition." Balancing that, he hoped that the English-born Gasson might have "seen the English cathedrals and buildings, and would probably be in sympathy with that style." Young Tom Gasson almost certainly had no architectural knowledge or interest when he left his homeland as a poverty-stricken teenager, but the design won nonetheless.

For a project of such magnitude, construction progressed with surprisingly few stops and starts. There were a thousand details to be managed, and few were too small to escape the president's scrutiny. How could the rock ledge of the Heights be safely

blasted away for the foundation? Where would the bathrooms in the building be located? How would interior walls and stairwells be painted? More important, how could a regular flow of cash be ensured so that the work, once begun, would not have to be abandoned? New fund-raising efforts were put into effect, with alumni pledging sums that were accounted for by class year. Student enrollment increased steadily—it topped 1,000 for the first time in the fall of 1911—perhaps spurred on by the prospect that students would soon attend an impressive new school. On Friday morning, March 28, 1913, a group of seniors rode the streetcars out to the site, where Gasson and the faculty met them and escorted them into the just-completed building, which, the president said grandly, "has been erected for the greater glory of God, . . . for the cultivation of solid knowledge, for the development of genuine science and for the constant study of those ideals which make for the loftiest civic probity and for the most exalted personal integrity." The cornerstone was laid and the building

Having purchased 30 pastoral acres in Chestnut Hill, Gasson selected for its development a heady plan, shown below in a bird's-eye view from Commonwealth Avenue, by a young architectural firm, Maginnis and Walsh. The new BC would be a latter-day Oxford, the reservoir rimmed by English Gothic spires and solemn courtyards. Only the central Tower Building, later renamed Gasson Hall, was built as envisioned.





formally dedicated that June, and, with the opening of classes the following September, Gasson's dream of the new Boston College was realized—just six-and-a-half years after he took office.

The effort was not, however, a story of inexorable progress. "It does not call for a very exuberant fancy," one Jesuit wrote several years later, "to visualize the obstacles to which this task was the natural heir. These sprang up in unlooked-for places, in terrifying proportions. Where [Gasson] expected bread, he was proffered a stone." The commentator's veiled language was a way of acknowledging the tensions that had arisen between Gasson and the College's most distinguished living alumnus of the time, Archbishop William O'Connell, who was every bit as strong-minded as Gasson. The two men were so much alike that some conflict between them was probably inevitable. O'Connell supported the new Boston College, personally pledging \$1,000 to the cause, but he worried that Gasson was moving too quickly. When Gasson talked about transforming the place overnight into a university—by which he meant opening graduate schools, a law school and even a medical school—the archbishop thought it best to apply the brakes. "The rushing up of enormous buildings at a tremendous outlay is a most serious blunder," he warned Gasson shortly after construction had begun. "For the present the obvious duty of myself and yourself is to go cautiously."

Moreover, like a feudal king, the archbishop may have feared that this "short, stubby" Jesuit was becoming an overmighty subject. Writing Gasson a frank letter in the summer of 1910, O'Connell reminded him that "all such large projects as that before Boston College have their difficulties to face, and the only way to overcome them is by complete and sincere submission to the direction of Holy Mother Church. . . . The lack of this submission breeds only disunion and trouble." O'Connell naturally assumed that, as archbishop, he should be the one to give the Church's direction, and he had a particular form of submission in mind. The new Boston College should not be an independent school, incorporated and owned by the Society of Jesus, he thought, but should become instead a subdivision of the archdiocese: "the Archbishop [meaning, of course, himself], consulting with Rome, ought to be the head and director" of the new school, he wrote, asking Gasson and his superiors to sign a legal document embodying such a change.

Gasson responded to this powerplay with shrewdness and skill. Of course, he replied, the College would always give the archbishop its full cooperation. "As we hold this view," Gasson added slyly, "and no one would ever dream of any other position, may we be excused from signing a formal document, as such a procedure would imply the possibility of a contrary position." His Jesuitical skills carried the day, and the two men maintained correct, if distant, relations for the remainder of Gasson's tenure as president.

Jesuit tradition had always limited presidential terms to only a few years: regular rotation in office was seen as a good thing. Thus, with the opening of classes at the Heights in the fall of 1913, Gasson's immediate work was finished. Accordingly, he stepped down in January 1914, relinquishing the leadership of the school to a colleague whose name would eventually grace another building on the campus: Charles W. Lyons, SJ. Gasson himself moved on, first for a few months' rest at the Jesuit novitiate at Woodstock in Maryland. From there it was back to the classroom, with several years of teaching at Georgetown, then a stint as a retreat director on Staten Island, and finally to Loyola College in Montreal. It was there that he died at the age of 70 on February 23, 1930.

Today Gasson is remembered as the visionary who foresaw a Boston College that would move from its humble beginnings toward a more substantial future. But he had more than dreams: he also had the ability—and the luck—to turn them into reality. "It was the boast of Augustus," a fellow Jesuit wrote in a eulogy shortly after Gasson's death, "that he found Rome brick and left it marble. . . . Fr. Gasson found Boston College a dark, uninviting building, in an obscure location, little more than an appendage of the Church of the Immaculate Conception. On his retiring from the presidency there stood one building available for classes with plans ready at hand for a group which, in its completion, would be unrivalled." Never troubled by false modesty, Thomas Gasson would probably have relished the idea of being compared to a Roman emperor.

*James O'Toole, associate professor of history at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, is the author of "Militant and Triumphant: William Henry O'Connell and Boston Catholicism, 1859-1944" (1987).*





# On target

## A compendium of Fortinalia

Since the 1950s BC theologian Ernest L. Fortin, AA, has been issuing iconoclastic, learned, humane, elegant, witty and caustic missives on politics and on religion. These “untimely meditations” in some sense comprise an extended argument with liberalism, but more importantly a writer’s lifelong quarrel with pretension, bad thinking and false idols wherever he finds them. The essays, most written for academic journals, have now been collected and published in *Human Rights, Virtue and the Common Good*, the third in a three-volume Fortin series from Rowman & Littlefield. Here, a sampling of excerpts:



## Virtues of capitalism

I do not wish to imply that Thomas Hobbes, John Locke and the other 17th-century advocates of natural rights were monsters of inhumane self-centeredness. Theirs was no ordinary selfishness or hedonism, a dog-eat-dog outlook in which everyone runs the risk of being devoured. It was a political hedonism, something entirely new on the intellectual horizon of the West. Behind it lay the laudable desire to put an end to the evils that had always plagued society and that had become particularly acute in the wake of the wars of religion that were then ravaging Europe. Its great advantage was that it did not depend for its success on a painful conversion from a concern for worldly goods to a concern for the good of the soul. Pursuing one's selfish interest, it was decided, was the best way to serve others. Properly managed, private vices could lead to public benefits. It thus became a moral duty to encourage people to think of themselves rather than of others, for by so doing one necessarily contributes to the good of the whole. The entrepreneur who is out to enrich himself and himself alone benefits the whole of society by creating lucrative jobs for the rest of its members. In the end, everybody is materially better off. The scheme was a clever one indeed, for by reconciling selfishness with altruism, it enabled everyone to reap the rewards of virtue without going to the trouble of acquiring it.

## How to read

True education consists in reading old books together with one's friends. By old books I mean not only the ones written by the authors of classical antiquity but those books that have withstood the test of time and that recommend themselves to us by the subtlety of their thought, the grace of their style and their insight into the fundamental human problems. Identifying these books is easy enough. We know roughly what they are, and besides, there are more of them than we shall ever be able to study with the proper care.

Furthermore, all or most of them are now available in cheap editions. The real problem is that we have forgotten how to read them and lack the incentive to do so. In true Nietzschean fashion, we are imbued with the idea that they should all be approached as documents of the age that produced them and whose prejudices they reflect. Any thought that they might have something of ultimate importance to teach us about ourselves and the way we should live is out of the question.

## Sailing to Genoa

The new university is distinguished by its fixation on what is now euphemistically called "cultural diversity," along with the decision to institutionalize it by making it a "core" requirement—as if cultural diversity were a discipline on a par with other bona fide academic disciplines, as if it could be "taught," or as if a one-semester course in Mahayana Buddhism was likely to effect a significant change in anybody. What students mostly find in such courses is what they bring to them, namely, their own unconscious and typically Western prejudices. However far and wide our modern-day Columbuses may travel in search of new continents, they never seem to discover anything but Genoa. I much prefer to see students who are capable of it immerse themselves in some great author and learn to see the world through his eyes for a change. This and only this will rid them of their provincialism and give them an intimation of the differences that separate human beings. As matters stand, very few of them ever live with a good book long enough to find out what a true alternative to their own way of thinking might be and thus learn something of importance about themselves.



Utility, effective as it may be as  
a means of rallying the consent of the  
multitude, is not the natural  
breeding ground of excellence.

The decency and respectability that  
liberal democracy

fosters are those  
of the banker, for  
which we can  
be grateful but  
about which it is  
hard to be  
enthusiastic.

### Where “we” begins

My reservation about the contemporary notion of communitarianism is that it is still too much committed to finding within modernity itself the intellectual and moral resources needed to overcome the limitations of modernity. One does not transcend the “ego” by expanding it into a “we” through the incorporation of other “egos” into it; for the “we” of modern thought is not a community. For this, a crucial further step is required: the realization that the “we” is more fundamental than the “I” and hence not derivable from it. It is something with which we start and not something with which we end.

We find this fundamental “we” (assuming that we want to continue the artificial practice of using pronouns as nouns) not in modern but in premodern thought, whose approach to these matters is at once more natural and more attractive to people who have not been brainwashed into believing that modern science and the philosophy that comes out of it are the sole arbiters of our intellectual and moral tastes.

I, for one, am always pleasantly surprised to see how much more enthusiastically college students respond to Plato and Aristotle than to Kant, Hegel or, for that matter, Nietzsche, despite his enormous appeal to young minds. I have just finished going through Aristotle’s *Ethics* with a group of freshmen and received the greatest compliment of my teaching career from one of them—not an A student, mind you—who said one day as we were walking out of class, and here I apologize for his language, which is more colorful than mine: “You know, I eat this shit right up!”



## This fallow soil

The United States prides itself on being the first nation to have secularized its political life or to have institutionalized the separation between church and state. From the beginning it showed itself remarkably accommodating to all religious traditions and provided a home within its boundaries for the most diverse religious groups. In many ways the experiment has been extraordinarily successful. Yet history has demonstrated that the privatization of religion via its subordination to an independent standard of political unity is not an unqualified asset. Modern democracy may discourage intolerance and religious strife, but by the same token it is not especially favorable to an intense spiritual life or to outbursts of religious fervor. It still offers scant nourishment for those rare passions that rend the souls of mystics and disclose the heights and depths of authentic religious experience. It treats all religions as equal, conveniently overlooking the fact that each one looks upon itself as superior to the others and hence worthy of the noble sacrifices that it demands of its followers.

America has not produced any Pascals. This observation by Alexis de Tocqueville is as pertinent today as it was then. In the century and a half that has elapsed since it was first made, not much has transpired that would cause us to doubt its validity.

Nor do the dynamics of the regime conduce to a high level of civic morality. Its basic principle is utility, and utility, effective as it may be as a means of rallying the consent of the multitude, is not the natural breeding ground of excellence. The decency and respectability that [liberal democracy] fosters are those of the banker, for which we can be grateful but about which it is hard to be enthusiastic. If liberal democracy excels at anything, it is at teaching individuals to live for themselves in the midst of others. Public-spiritedness is not its strong suit, and expressions of it are rarely divorced from the pursuit of private interests. Americans are apt to raise a hue and cry about the breakdown of law and order when they or their daughters are mugged, but they do not like to pay their taxes. It is hardly surprising that, for all our prosperity and incredibly high standard of living, we should hear so many complaints about the quality of our common life. One has only to observe the loneliness, the feeling of alienation and the pervasive sense of lostness that mark the lives of such large numbers of our contemporaries to realize that we do not have all that we could and should have in the way of human fulfillment.

His only regret was that he had lacked the moral courage to press the Nazi bureaucracy for a larger payroll. He soon recovered from the shock but, interestingly enough, only upon learning that the victorious scientists were having second thoughts about the morality of the means by which their triumph had been secured. What the example proves, if it proves anything, is not that scientists have no sense of responsibility toward the government that subsidizes their efforts but that they are not always particularly reflective about the nature of their commitment to it or, more bluntly, that the most sophisticated theoretical knowledge sometimes goes hand in hand with an all but total lack of self-knowledge.

## Weird science

The people of my generation grew up with the image of a lonely Frankenstein who conducts his weird experiments in secret and without the slightest concern for the manner in which they might affect the lives of others. But Frankenstein appears to be the exception rather than the rule. Recent studies on the social psychology of natural scientists reveal that most of them tend to be loyal and devoted servants of the society to which they belong. The overwhelming majority of the 1,250,000-odd scientists who worked in the Soviet Union were staunch supporters of the goals of their regime, and the same is undoubtedly true of their counterparts in the West. Along the same lines, one cannot fail to be impressed by the enthusiasm with which most scientists rallied to the cause of their respective governments during World War II. We know from a secretly recorded conversation that, when the news of Hiroshima was leaked to a group of interned German scientists in August 1945, Werner Heisenberg was conscience stricken at the thought, not that the bomb had been dropped, but that it was vastly more powerful than the one on which he and his associates had been working.



## New age of faith

As Tocqueville predicted, religion has not ceased from the land, far from it. There may even be more of it around than there has been for quite some time. According to an extensive survey commissioned by the Graduate School of the City University of New York and conducted among 113,000 people between April 1989 and April 1990, 92.5 percent of Americans describe themselves as religious, and 86.4 percent as Christians. Only 7.5 percent profess no religion at all. The village atheists, who until a few years ago were still advertising their wares in the national papers, have mysteriously disappeared, gone underground or converted. God has his weekly column in *Time* magazine and *Newsweek* (even if he is not always well served by his editors), a good number of journals of his own, and, lest legislators should fail to take heed, a powerful lobby in Washington.

He also has his regular TV shows, on which he is half expected to make a personal appearance one of these days. If the extraordinary success of a few popular preachers proves anything, it is that he is still very much in business, too much perhaps. The Religious Right has become a major force on the political horizon, and the Religious Left, momentarily thrown off stride by the collapse of Marxist socialism, is not about to admit defeat. In the meantime, cults of all sorts proliferate, some more eccentric or more frightening than others. Even Harvey Cox has taken to trumpeting the rebirth of religion in the midst of a city from which God was supposed to have been banished with the advent of the secular city a quarter of a century ago.

The aim of my facile caricature is not to disparage these outbursts of evangelical or charismatic fervor but to suggest that they remain ambiguous and that all may not be for the best in the state of our divine affairs. If our ubiquitous pollsters were to train their sights on astrology or fortune-telling, they would probably discover that they, too, are on the rise, and for the same reasons. Whereas it is customary to speak of the Middle Ages as the "age of faith," no one would dream of applying that label to our time, if only because the

house of religion is more fragmented than ever. Maybe a religious revival is on the way, and there is no reason to doubt the sincerity of many of those who have undertaken to lead it; but that still does not dispense us from raising questions about its true nature.

In a brilliant lecture entitled "The Almost-Chosen People: Why America is Different," the British historian Paul Johnson noted a few years ago that our country has gone through four great religious "awakenings" in the course of its relatively short history: one in the 1730s, another between 1795 and 1835, a third from 1875 to 1914, and finally the one that we are witnessing at the present moment. If we need to be forcefully reawakened every 40 years or so, it must be that the roots of our religious convictions are not as deep or as vigorous as one might think.



## True believers

Christianity, the religion of love par excellence, breeds its own form of intolerance and has often succumbed to the very evils it ostensibly seeks to counteract. In compliance with the requirements of the gospel, the faith must be preached to all nations. Conquest, when favored by circumstances, becomes a religious obligation and pious cruelty a permanent temptation. If unbelief or apostasy—as opposed to, say, tyranny, civil war or high treason—is the capital sin, it must be eradicated whenever possible and by force if necessary. Repressed spiritedness is unleashed and, inspired by zeal for the faith, is redirected toward the infidel. In a strange but all-too-human reversal of roles, the persecuted becomes the persecutor.

In like fashion, the extraordinary moral sacrifices that Christianity demands of its followers disposed them to make the same demands on others. These sacrifices must be justified, and there is no better way to prove to oneself that they are than by imposing them on everyone else. One's impulse is to ascribe all wrongdoing not to ignorance or weakness but to the malice or free will of the sinner, who invites not pity but retribution. Evil is everywhere present and everywhere to be feared. But it is impossible to think that badly on one's fellows unless one experiences the same secret desires within oneself. The monsters that populate one's own dreams end by being projected onto the neighbor, where they can be more safely exorcised.

Compassion is  
not the same  
thing as charity  
and hardly  
qualifies as a  
substitute for it. As its name  
indicates, it is not a  
virtue but a passion—more likable  
than a lot of other passions  
perhaps, but not  
any less self-regarding.



## A bored Satan for a bored age

With the advent of modernity, Satan lost a good deal of his credibility. The problem now was to make him plausible once again, and no one succeeded better at this than Milton. If anything, Satan became too plausible, less perhaps as an archvillain before whom one cringes in horror than as a pathetic victim to whom our hearts go out in sympathy. It would not be long before the belief in his universal power, the necessary accompaniment of universal faith, began to turn against the religion that gave him birth. A Satan who is that powerful must be entitled to greater respect and, as we know from Faust, invites dangerous new experiments. Lending credence to him ups the ante, so to speak, and spices vice by adding an extra kick to it, or so the *poètes maudits* of 19th-century France discovered.

Then a funny thing happened to him. He disappeared, the first in a list of doctrinal casualties that was destined to grow longer as time went on. Orthodox Christians were quick to point out that this was not at all the case; that, when it comes to recognition, Satan, the Prince of Darkness, is less fussy than God, that he prefers to work behind the scenes, tricking mortals into following him without their being conscious of it. Yet he cannot remain totally hidden, for otherwise nobody would even mention him. Where then are we to look for him?

Here, I confess that I am at a bit of a loss for an answer. One might expect thoughtful Christians to point to the likes of Hitler and Stalin as suitable candidates, but such has generally not been the case. The great surprise of our century is that, after all this talk about the devil, so few people recognized him when they came face-to-face with him. If our modern sensibilities, shaped in part by Christianity, tell us anything, it is that nobody can be that bad.

It is nevertheless doubtful whether most human beings can dispense with the need to personalize the forces of evil. I may be wrong, but it seems to me that there is still someone abroad who fulfills this need. The modern world did not really kill Satan; it democratized him and made him into a bourgeois. His name is Dr. Moriarty, the wicked genius who capitalizes on the peculiar invisibility afforded by liberal society to extend his own empire and against whom the local police are utterly powerless. It takes a supersleuth, Sherlock Holmes, another bourgeois, to penetrate the workings of his mind and outwit him. The enterprise is more ingenious than heroic, but then a society that is unable to dedicate itself to any cause higher than the self can get along with lesser gods. All it insists on is that they be interesting. Moriarty commits his crimes, not for the sake of gain—he does not need the money—but because he is bored. The theatrical, cocaine-using Holmes solves them because he is bored. And people read the stories because they are bored.

## On turning the other cheek

To be sure, Christians are urged to turn the other cheek (Matthew 5:39) and to requite evil with good (Romans 12:17-21), which is not necessarily a bad idea; but these principles, too, take on a different meaning when viewed within the context of one's relations with all of one's fellow human beings. A slap on the cheek with the back of one's hand was a common insult that ordinarily invited some form of retaliation. In such instances, the offended person might well choose to forgive rather than stand on his honor, especially if he has only himself to think about; but it is easy to imagine other instances in which the same forbearance would do more harm than good. Significantly, the situations envisaged in the New Testament are one-on-one situations rather than situations in which the welfare of third parties, to say nothing of entire communities, is at stake. They have nothing to do with the mode of behavior that is in order when conflicts of a general nature threaten to erupt. It is surely a sign of the fundamental ambiguity of the New Testament concerning these matters that, with seemingly equal right, radicals at both ends of the political spectrum have been able to appeal to it to defend pacifism or to justify their involvement in revolutionary activities.



## Misty sentiments

Human beings do not live by rational calculation alone, and all recent efforts to temper the harshness of economic society by such misty sentiments as humanity, compassion and philanthropy or else to embellish it with the aid of such lofty but artificial notions as culture and aesthetics—not to mention the other playthings of a bored and boring bourgeois world—have been at most only partially successful. Compassion is not the same thing as charity and hardly qualifies as a substitute for it. As its name indicates, it is not a virtue but a passion—more likable than a lot of other passions perhaps, but not any less self-regarding. And modern art that is so completely divorced from the rest of life as ours has become will not do the trick, either. Its end result is not a new integration of our fragmented and disoriented selves but the emergence of the aesthetic state as a state capable of determining one's existential attitude, alongside other possible states, such as the scientific state or the political state. One is merely concerned with bringing about a harmony of the feelings on the basis of which one's sentiment of life and one's view of the world is formed. Where that leaves us, nobody knows or even bothers to ask. We take for granted that culture is a requirement of human progress, but we fail to answer the crucial question: What is the goal of that progress? All of this, as Heidegger notes, is still only a facade, behind which lurks the metaphysical despair so perspicaciously unmasked and so powerfully analyzed by Nietzsche. Little wonder that our society should be dividing more and more of its time between the office or the assembly line and the couch. The scheme is not totally bad as long as the economists make enough money to pay for our psychiatrists, but it does leave something to be desired.

believer took precedence over one's actual way of life, which could vary greatly from one place to another. Accordingly, theology and not jurisprudence became the highest science within the community and the locus of its liveliest debates, all of which tended to focus on points of doctrine rather than on points of law. As has rightly been observed, no other religious group has placed a greater premium on the purity of doctrine or has been so much on its guard against heresy. For this reason, the Church's authority was always understood to be first and foremost a spiritual authority. Nowhere in the Christian tradition does one encounter the kind of concern for the perfect law or the perfect social order that is so prominently displayed in both Judaism and Islam.

## Talk is cheap

For all its far-reaching political implications, the New Testament has no genuine political teaching of its own and, while it is not unaware of the harsh necessities of the social life, it evinces hardly any interest at all in them. As Thomas Aquinas would later say, the justice of which it speaks is not the justice of this world, sufficiently known through the first principles of natural reason, but the "justice of the faith," *iustitia fidei*, which has been given to us not to solve the problems of civil society but to lead us to the blessedness of eternal life.

It is therefore no mere accident that the internal history of Christianity, in contrast to that of Judaism or Islam, traditionally has been dominated by doctrinal rather than legal or juridical preoccupations. Justification was achieved not through the performance of such righteous deeds as might be prescribed by the law but through faith. In the absence of a divinely mandated social organization, Christian unity was secured by a commonality of belief. Orthodoxy was thought to be more important than orthopraxy, and what one held as a



## On robbing the poor

One can hardly fault the bishops [who adopted the concept of the preferential option for the poor at the 1971 synod in Rome] for wanting to do something about the scandalous persistence of pauperism in the midst of a society that is daily becoming more prosperous. On this score, they are merely heeding the injunctions of the Bible, which, as they correctly point out, evinces a good deal of concern for the poor, the afflicted and the underprivileged. Unlike the bishops, however, the Bible never goes so far as to propose that something might be owed to them simply by reason of their poverty. Here as elsewhere, it looks at the problem from the standpoint of the doer of the righteous or merciful deed rather than that of its beneficiary. The thrust of the New Testament message is that the Christian, who has received everything from God, must imitate him by sharing his superfluous goods with those who lack the necessities of life. The poverty about which it speaks is more often than not spiritual poverty, which sometimes goes hand in hand with material poverty but which cannot be equated with it. God wants all people to be saved, the rich as well as the poor.

It is true, as the bishops likewise remind us, that Jesus himself lived in a ten-thousandfold poverty and did not have a stone on which to rest his head; but it is also true that he had some fairly rich friends, whom he does not condemn and of whose hospitality he was quite willing to avail himself. And he apparently had no qualms about allowing his equally improvident disciples to steal a few ears of corn from neighboring fields from time to time. Imagine what human society would be like if everybody were to live like that! On balance, one is almost tempted to say that the Bible is more concerned with the rich than with the poor. From its perspective, they are the ones who need help. Besides, if the poor are really closer to God, I suppose one should think twice before robbing them of their poverty.

## The necessity of sin

Revealed religion stands or falls by the notions of sin, guilt and atonement; without sin and the recognition thereof, there is no need for or possibility of redemption. Adopting a procedure similar to that of Pascal, Cardinal John Henry Newman laid down as the “large and deep” foundation of religion, both natural and revealed, the innate sense of moral obligation and moral failing. “Its many varieties,” he wrote in his classic *Grammar of Assent*, “all proclaim that man is in a degraded, servile condition, and requires expiation, reconciliation and some great change of nature.” Sin is universal. No one is free from it. To quote Scripture once again, even the just man sins seven times a day. Anyone who is unaware of having done wrong is surely guilty of some hidden sin or some unconscious sin of omission.

As proof of the seriousness with which sin is taken in Christianity, one has only to cite the number of books written on it across the centuries. My own favorite example of the genre is the 18th-century Roman Catholic theologian and doctor of the Church, Alphonsus Liguori, whose mammoth treatise of moral theology, comprising more than 3,100 pages in quarto, discusses every imaginable sin and a few others besides. I stopped reading it when I realized it was making me think of all sorts of things the knowledge of which did not seem indispensable to the perfection of one’s intellect or the guidance of one’s life. No wonder the book, written in Latin, was never translated into any modern language! (There are still some rewards left for those who take the pains to learn that dead tongue.) Confessors were expected to be aware of all of this. As for the rest of the faithful, the less they knew about it, the better. There was no point in giving them ideas.

*Reprinted with permission, from “Human Rights, Virtue and the Common Good: Untimely Meditations on Religion and Politics” (Rowman & Littlefield, 1996; J. Brian Benestad, editor).*



## SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS

For the second consecutive year, fund-raising totals  
set new records

**The Fides and President's Circle giving societies set new membership records for the fourth consecutive year, with 2,000 and 650 members, respectively.**

When the University closed its books for 1996-97 on May 31, cash gifts exceeded \$27 million, beating past records for the second year running and bringing Boston College's two-year total to nearly \$52 million. The Jesuit Institute received the largest single gift, \$2.5 million from an anonymous donor, which doubled its endowment. The gift will endow the Peter Canisius Chair and provide the institute with operating support.

The year's total included major contributions to all four of the areas BC has designated as priorities: student financial aid, unrestricted giving, and funding for the proposed new sports complex and new student center. Two major events brought in close to \$2 million for financial aid. The Wall Street

Tribute Dinner raised a record \$1,030,000 for the Presidential Scholars program, and the Pops on the Heights benefit concert, held on Parents' Weekend for the first time this year, raised nearly \$1 million. The Pops Scholarship Fund has awarded 44 scholarships over the past four years.

Fides and President's Circle giving societies set new membership records for the fourth consecutive year, with 2,000 and 650 members, respectively—285 of whom are parents of Boston College students.

The Behrakis Foundation, led by BC parents George and Margo Behrakis, pledged \$1 million to the student-center project. Pledges to the proposed sports complex, which will replace the RecPlex, totaled \$1.6 million, including \$1 million from the

Yawkey Foundation. That helped BC set a record for athletic fund-raising, with nearly \$4.2 million in pledges.

In addition to the Canisius Chair, two other endowed professorships were announced this year: a chair in biology, which will be established through a \$1-million gift from a member of the Class of 1954, and the Newton College Alumnae Professorship in Western Culture.

Among other fund-raising highlights from the year just ended: reunion gifts raised the second-largest total ever, \$6.2 million. The Class of '67 raised \$1,365,299, a 30th-reunion record; and '92 raised \$103,500, a fifth-reunion record.

Corporate gifts and pledges reached \$7.8 million, and foundation gifts and pledges topped \$6.8 million.

## THE COMMISH

A bequest carries on Fr. Mac's coaching mission

For Fr. Mac, the youth of Fall River and New Bedford were second only to the Church," says BC Head Baseball Coach Richard Maloney. And it's likely that baseball came in third in the hierarchy of this diocesan priest who used sports as a way of reaching and motivating local boys. So it is apt that the late Rev. Paul F. McCarrick '52, will be remembered through his \$200,000 charitable-gift annuity, endowing a BC scholarship for a baseball player from Fall River or New Bedford, Massachusetts. Maloney already has his eye on a candidate for the

first \$10,000 scholarship—a New Bedford High School athlete who is talented academically as well.

Fr. McCarrick made the gift to his class's 45th-reunion campaign last fall, shortly before his death on December 12 at the age of 65. A native of Revere, Massachusetts, he entered the priesthood after graduating from BC, and was assigned to St. Joseph's Parish in Fall River, where he immediately became involved in youth activities.

"He ran the local Catholic Youth Organization, and I got to know him through that when I was a sophomore in high school,"

says Lucien Silva '72, a School of Education graduate who teaches and coaches high-school football in Marshfield, Massachusetts. "I didn't have a father, so he took me under his wing. There were hundreds of kids who were known in the Fall River-New Bedford area at that time as 'Fr. Mac's boys.' He took a special interest in you, your education, your athletic career; he helped kids get jobs, helped kids get out of jail if they got into trouble."

He was tough, but that was not the secret of his success, says James Gibney, Fall River's pub-



lic schools superintendent, and another of "Fr. Mac's boys." "You would do what he asked because you didn't want to let him down."

Silva was the first in his family to graduate from high school: "I wanted to go to college because Fr. Mac said so. He would do that: take kids to college football and basketball games to plant the idea of college. One day my senior year, he says to me, 'Get in the car, we're going for a ride'—one of his favorite phrases—and we go straight to Fr. Walsh's office—the president of BC—and there's my folder sitting on the desk. Fr. Walsh asks me, 'Do you want to come to Boston College?' and I said, 'Very much.' 'OK,' he says, 'you're in.' Fr. Mac helped tons

of kids get into college."

Fr. McCarrick used sports as a bridge to young men, "because that's how he was best able to relate to them," says Maloney. "He would use baseball and basketball, but especially baseball, because he loved the game so much."

The summer league Fr. McCarrick founded in 1977 for high-school and college players—the Bristol County Baseball League, which plays its games on the recently rededicated Fr. McCarrick Field—has sent several players to professional baseball, including one of the Red Sox's top pitching prospects, Brian Rose.

Fr. McCarrick also did his best to bird-dog talent for his alma mater. "Dozens of players came

to BC because of his interest," says Maloney. One, 1994 All-American Michael Martin, is now a BC assistant coach.

In Fr. McCarrick's zeal, he'd occasionally forget that the National Collegiate Athletic Association has rules governing recruiting. Once, at an American Legion baseball tournament in Fall River, he tried to introduce a group of players to Maloney as top prospects—a group too young under NCAA regulations for any contact with a college coach. "I explained all that," Maloney recalls, "and he just looked at me and said, 'God will take care of it.' He was a stubborn person. He loved Boston College, but the kids came first. He looked out for them first."

## HE'S BACK

Legendary Boston Pops conductor John Williams returns to Conte Forum on September 26 to lead the Esplanade Orchestra at the fifth annual Pops on the Heights Scholarship Gala. Williams was maestro at the concert in 1993 and 1994. His Pops successor, Keith Lockhart, took up the baton at BC last fall but had to bow out this year because of a scheduling conflict, so Williams agreed to return. For ticket information, call (800) 767-5591.

## NEW GUARD

Gregory P. Barber '69, succeeds Trustee Patrick Carney '70, as chairman of the Fides Executive Committee. Barber, chairman and CEO of the Rhode Island investment firm Gregory P. Barber and Associates, also leads Blue Chips, BC's giving society for athletics. He has a tough act to follow at Fides. Under Carney's leadership, membership rose from 1,318 in 1994 to 2,000 this year.

## APPLE CORPS

Jonathan P. Wolfe is the new director of BC's New York Regional Office, succeeding Terrance Granahan, who now directs principal gifts. Former director of Brandeis's New York office, Wolfe was vice president of general development at Covenant House, the international agency for homeless and runaway children.

## IN TRIBUTE

The following named endowed funds were recently established at Boston College. New funds may be established and contributions to existing funds may be made through the Office of Development, More Hall.

## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Lott Scholarship Fund  
The Edward C. Pellagrini Scholarship Fund  
The William D. Sullivan, SJ, Ph.D. Scholarship Fund  
The Conrad P. '72 and Monica Voldstad Scholarship Fund

## GENERAL PROGRAM FUNDS

The Sigma Nu Project  
Endowment Fund



**DOG-DAY AFTERNOON**—Kathleen Barber Power '72, Michael F. Power '71, and daughter Danielle were among the 500 alumni and guests who enjoyed hot dogs, corn on the cob and other picnic fare at the reunion lunch on May 17. Nearly 550 members of the Class of 1972 participated in the 25th-reunion drive, which raised a total of \$1.9 million for BC.





# Measure by measure

The son of Shanghai nightclub dancers, music professor Thomas Oboe Lee began performing jazz as a teenager in Brazil, then switched to composing; now he incorporates those musical roots into classical pieces that refute 20th-century atonality. An interview by associate editor Bruce Morgan.

**First the unavoidable: How did you get your middle name?**

That was my father's sense of humor; he was a professional musician. I have a sister whose middle name is Viola. I have another sister named Mandola, for mandolin. The next question is, Do I play the oboe? No, I do not.

**You were born and raised in China: Were you exposed to European classical music as a child?**

I came to classical music very late. I started out as a jazz musician. Both my parents were in the music business in the 1940s, but they did mostly popular music, singing in English and dancing in nightclubs in Shanghai, which was a very cosmopolitan city in those days. Their entertainment was always more Western than Chinese. I grew up listening to the records of Benny Goodman, Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, Oscar Peterson. Jazz filled the house. My father, who could tap-dance and do the tango, was an Asian Fred Astaire. At parties, the moment my parents started dancing, everybody else would stop. They were that good.

My parents split up when I was 15. My mother came to the United States, and I followed my father, who was something of an adventurer, to Brazil. I did not take much of an interest in performing music myself until I was on the boat from Hong Kong to Brazil, where I met two Japanese guys—a clarinet player and a trumpet player. Every morning I'd come up on deck, where they'd be practicing their instruments. That made a big impression on me. I had always loved music, but I had never thought about what it took: the discipline, the focus, the concentration. That was the spark for me. When I arrived in Brazil, I got a clarinet and taught myself to play. Within a year I played well enough to join some dance bands around São Paulo. From clarinet, I moved to saxophone and the flute.

As a teenager I had a great time playing clubs, doing television, recording. One advantage to learning to play in Brazil was that most people there



couldn't read music; they played everything by ear. That was critical in helping my ears develop. Much later, when I switched from performing jazz to composing, it was not that big a jump because as a composer you have to write from your imagination, and I had been improvising for 10 years. Consequently it is easy for me to write music. It flows right out.

**When you sit down to write music, what do you start with?**

I've been composing since 1973 and have written more than 60 works, from solo to orchestral pieces. Lately I like to base my music on an extramusical model. For example, I'm writing a piece for a group in Holland to perform next April. There are four instruments: clarinet, cello, viola and piano. How does one begin? It just happened the other day that I was at a bookstore and started flipping through a two-volume book on the works of Pablo Picasso, whose work falls into five distinct periods—his early blue period, the rose period, the middle period in which he painted *Les Femmes d'Alger*, the cubist period and finally *Guernica*. I realized that those five periods, or moods, could make a nice suite. So I'm going to start with the blue period and write something bluesy to go with that. For the second movement, the rose period, I want to write a waltz. And so forth for the remaining three periods.

What I do is unlike what other classical composers are doing today. In some ways I'm reactionary, a throwback to the 19th century. My approach to composing is neither intellectual nor mathematical; it's emotional. Many contemporary classical composers would be horrified at the idea of using a bunch of paintings to write a piece. They would argue that an approach like that detracts from the integrity or the purity of the music.

When I was a student, I wrote more abstractly because my teachers did. But playing those early pieces, I found that audiences were turned off. I started to ask myself, What am I trying to convey

here? Am I trying to bring a listener in? That's the connection I want. Let's say I go to Faneuil Hall, and I meet someone who speaks a language I don't know; how long is that relationship going to last? I'd much rather write music in which the audience and I have a common language and can connect.

**Has your upbringing in China and Brazil influenced the music you compose?**

I once went to visit a professor at Columbia University, a man who was then the premier Chinese-American composer. I had sent him tapes and scores of my music in advance. When I walked into his office, the first thing he asked me was, "Why doesn't your music sound Chinese?" I found that irrelevant. Just because I look Chinese, I have to write Chinese music? I think that's an insult. But I didn't say that. I said, "Well, maybe it's because I lived in Brazil for six years." In fact, my music has been influenced more by my Brazilian past than by anything Chinese.

You can hear this most easily in the rhythms. My most famous piece is called "Morango . . . Almost a Tango." That piece, which has been choreographed by at least a half dozen ballet companies, has a very Latin quality to it—a kind of sultry, melancholy tone.

**Has writing music on the computer altered the composition process for you?**

It's made a huge difference. I like to write music as fast as I can and then sit back and listen and edit it. Before the computer, I'd often write something I thought was perfectly fine and then go to the first rehearsal and be absolutely horrified. That first rehearsal is usually just a week before the performance, which wouldn't leave me much time to revise. But writing on the computer, you can play it back immediately; you don't have to wait for an orchestra. Now I don't give my music to anyone before I've refined it on the computer.

The computer is even more useful for teaching composition. In the old days my minimal piano skills were a serious limitation; I really could not play

my students' work in real time. If I couldn't tell what the piece sounded like, how could I critique it? But now all my students compose on the computer. They come in with a floppy disk, pop it in the machine, and I can say, "I don't like this note—let's change it," or "maybe we should add a measure here." Now students can hear my ideas, and they can either accept or reject them. But at least we can hear the work in real time.

**How many people are currently composing classical music?**

Thousands. Every university in this country has a music department, and most of those departments have at least two composers teaching theory. That's essentially how we survive: we teach theory, harmony, counterpoint, analysis; that's my job here at BC. A lot of composers are in the computer software business, too, or they do some other, unrelated thing to make a living.

One day I said to an architect friend, "Don't you think there are too many architects? I mean, how many buildings can people really build?" He said, "There are never enough architects." And I can sort of see his point. You can't suppress artistic output, because you never know—the person you tell to quit might be the next Beethoven.

**Given your early enthusiasm for performing and jazz, how did you end up composing classical music?**

At age 20, after living in Brazil with my father, I went to be with my mother in Pittsburgh, and I enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh. When I arrived, I was a premed student, because after four or five years of playing music for dances, I had gotten a little bit sick of it; our gigs in Brazil typically went from 10 P.M. to 5 A.M., which can wear thin fast. Even so, on weekends in Pittsburgh I was playing my flute at weddings and doing some jazz gigs to make money. During my junior year the university hired a jazz teacher, and I decided to become a music major.

When I graduated from Pittsburgh in 1972, the New England Conservatory



was one of two schools in the country that offered a graduate program in jazz. So I came out to NEC. It didn't take long before I noticed that there were freshmen who could play better than I could—fast, up-tempo stuff—and I could hardly keep up with them. If I had practiced hard, I probably could have matched them, but I hated to practice. I began to realize that I would never be on top of the heap as a performer.

The following semester Gunther Schuller taught a course that was designed to expose jazz students to such 20th-century classical composers as Igor Stravinsky. I took that seminar, and a lightbulb came on. I said, Hey, if I become a composer, I won't have to practice; I can just sit and write. There was something else I had to consider, too, which was that the best jazz musicians were all black: Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Thelonius Monk, Duke Ellington. There were very fine white musicians, too: Bill Evans and Stan Getz. But being Asian, I felt I didn't really belong. I was caught in a no-man's-land.

As a composer, I didn't have to be black or white. I could be myself. I decided I needed a really good foundation in classical music, the stuff that Beethoven and Mozart did, so I applied to Harvard. By 1981, when I finished my doctorate there, I was more comfortable with classical music than jazz. But I brought with me some of the informal feeling and desire for connection with the audience that I had learned during all those years of playing jazz.

#### How did that attitude show itself?

The year that I graduated, five other students from New England Conservatory and I formed a group called Composers in Red Sneakers. We gave concerts four times a year—initially at the Old Cambridge Baptist Church in Harvard Square and later at Harvard's Sanders Theater—which meant that every few months we were dealing with a real, live audi-

ence. The experience was instrumental in my decision to move away from abstract music.

Some of our peers saw us as renegades. In contemporary classical music there's a school of thought that makes a point of ignoring the audience. One composer, Milton Babbitt, went so far as to write an article entitled "Who Cares If You Listen?" which was published in *High Fidelity* magazine in 1958. His premise was that composers are like hot mathematicians or physicists whose research does not really relate to common folks. With Red Sneakers, we had a paying audience, and we wanted those people to return for the next concert. It didn't make sense to write atonal, abstract music; people were not going to come back to hear that.

Now I wouldn't say that my music is totally accessible, but it's accessible enough that if you understand musical language extending from Beethoven to Brahms to Mahler to Debussy, then you will see that I'm a direct descendant of that tradition. The other approach, which is exemplified by the 12-tone system of Austrian composer Arnold Schönberg, is abstract and atonal. Someone once said that 20th-century music could have gone either of two ways—the Schönberg way or the way of Mahler and Richard Strauss. In fact, it went both ways. I believe in staying with tonal language. If you turn on the radio and listen to pop music, it's all tonal. Why create a new language that no one understands? It's as though abstract composers are making their own rules of grammar and syntax and then trying to communicate.

Red Sneakers helped me realize, too, that I incorporate my jazz roots; that's basically what I've done. I write in a classical form but with lots of jazz flavor.

#### If you like the informality and tonality of jazz and popular music so much, why do you continue to work within the classical format?

First, a pop format generally allows the musicians to improvise in their own style, and I don't like that. As a classical composer, I get to define the parameters and maintain control of the sound. A com-

poser is like an architect—he or she has to design the thing. Classical music is not a communal effort the way jazz is.

In addition, I have to admit that I'm not very good at collaborating. That's one reason I'm not interested in writing film scores; I like my vision to stay pure.

#### What do you want an audience to get from your music?

I want to ignite something inside their hearts, their souls, their memory of the emotional experience. A few years back I was commissioned by Amnesty International USA to write a piece. The only stipulation was that it be somehow related to its mission, which is to free political prisoners. The Amnesty people sent me some printed materials, including a children's book called *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, which consisted of poems written by children held at the Terezin concentration camp in Prague at the end of World War II. Terezin was a "model" camp; the Nazis were trying to give the Red Cross the impression that they treated prisoners well. They said, Here we have artists, composers, and they're all doing their work. But that was only a front. Children were encouraged to write poetry, and a lot of them did—simply devastating poems.

I wrote a piece for voice, clarinet and piano, because that was the orchestration that Amnesty International gave me. I have to confess that while I was writing some of the movements, I was emotionally taken over by the experience. The Amnesty piece has been played many times since. Every time I've seen it performed, at the end there has been silence. Most people have been fighting back tears.

I like to have that kind of experience with my music. The topic may or may not be emotional. It could be an ordinary string quartet, but even then I'd try to include movements that have such a melodic voice that you just cannot ignore them. I want the music to draw you in. If that happens, I've accomplished my goal as a composer. If it doesn't, well, then, try again in the next piece. ♦



# Under the big top

CIRCUS MUSICIAN RIK ALBANI '68



Rik Albani knows the kinds of tunes his animals like. Horses are easily spooked, so they prefer quiet serenades, he says. Elephants, on the other hand, “are pretty cool and take everything in stride. For the elephants, we wail away.” As music director with the Big Apple Circus, Albani plays trumpet and leads a crack eight-piece band through its paces from a platform high above the animals, clowns and acrobats. His wife, keyboardist Linda Hudes, writes the show’s alternately funky and ethereal melodies. “We’re like the Steve and Edie of circus music,” he laughs.

Albani has been a horn jock since college. After a two-year stint in the U.S. Navy Band, he moved to New York City in the 1970s and played with the likes of Wilson Pickett and the Talking Heads. In 1980 he joined the Big Apple Circus, a one-ring show some friends had helped start in the late ’70s. Since then the circus has surged in popularity, exploiting the human desire to sit close enough to the action to have popcorn flung by a clown bounce off your chin.

Performing 350 shows a year throughout the East and Midwest is grueling, Albani says. “Our lives revolve around being prepared and fit and in there ready for that downbeat.” Apart from Hudes and Albani, the band changes from town to town, with freelancers filling the remaining chairs—second trumpet, trombone, bass, drums, guitar and saxophone. Albani and Hudes use elements of soul, rock, gospel and funk to create a kaleidoscopic range of moods—a shift from traditional circus marches and waltzes. “That was the pop music of the day, but it lasted for more than 50 years,” Albani says. “In the last 15 years or so, circuses are saying, Hey, we can do other things.”

*Bruce Morgan*





PHOTOGRAPH BY GARY GILBERT

*Irish studies faculty outside Connolly House. Standing: Robert Savage (history), Kevin O'Neill (history), Adele Dalsimer (English), Alvin Jackson (visiting scholar, Burns Library), Seamus Connolly (music). Seated: Kristin Morrison (English), Philip O'Leary (English).*

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## HOME STAND

Adele Dalsimer, codirector of Irish studies, couldn't be happier with her new digs on the top two floors of Connolly House. The upcoming move gives the program—arguably the nation's finest—a chance for sustained interaction among faculty members representing history, music, theater, art, literature and sociology, who formerly occupied offices in separate buildings. "We've done so much when we were all over the place; I can't wait to see what we do when we're all together," Dalsimer says.

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